



DUKE  
UNIVERSITY



LIBRARY











# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

December 1946

Number 17

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY · DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

## CONTENTS

Reminiscences on the Early History of Duke University Library, by Joseph Penn Breedlove.....	1
Programs .....	4
Desiderata .....	6
Gifts .....	10
News .....	14

# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 17

December 1946

Tr. R.  
020.624  
D877F  
no. 17-26

## REMINISCENCES ON THE EARLY HISTORY OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

JOSEPH PENN BREEDLOVE, Librarian Emeritus

[In September, 1898, Mr. Breedlove was appointed Librarian of Trinity College. Since that date he has conscientiously and faithfully served the library, both as Librarian and as Librarian Emeritus. His long career has been well described elsewhere; in this place it seems most appropriate that he himself, having participated in the early struggles of our library and having observed almost the entire course of its development, should describe to the Friends of the Library some few of the many events he has witnessed.—Ed.]

THE Friends of Duke Library may be interested to read of a few incidents which occurred early in the history of the library. Many years ago the telling of some of these stories might have occasioned embarrassment, but now that the struggle of the very lean years has passed, the serious aspects have faded and only a mildly humorous flavor remains.

In the 1890's the Library of Trinity College, consisting of the collections of three societies together with a few reference works purchased by the college, was housed in a single room in the old Washington Duke building. Here, for two hours each afternoon and three hours each evening, students were given access to the books, magazines, and newspapers. The post of librarian, with its inconsiderable salary, was assigned yearly, usually to a junior or

senior student who needed aid in meeting his college expenses, sometimes to a recent graduate who felt the need of further academic training. This annual change of librarians proved highly unsatisfactory, and when, in 1899, the financial situation of the college made it possible, the employment of a permanent librarian was considered.

I had served during the year 1898-1899 as the last of the student librarians, and the post of permanent librarian was offered to me on its creation in 1899. I incline to suspect that President Kilgo's decision in this matter was influenced by a species of "old-maidism" which I had practiced during my year in office. All members of the faculty had keys to the library, and many of them, including the President, preferred to visit the room when it was closed to students. Under some of my

predecessors, who contented themselves with dismissing the students and locking the door at closing time, the faculty had often found the library room in a state of disorder, magazines and papers tossed hither and yon on the tables, the chairs pushed out of place. My personal preference for order led me to put all things to rights regularly before closing, and it was this habit which earned President Kilgo's approval and probably influenced my appointment as full-time librarian.

In 1897 an attempt to catalogue and classify the books in the library had been made; the next four years saw the task nearly completed. The catalogue was written by hand on small cards, not quite two inches high. The classification, evolved by the librarian in conjunction with the faculty library committee, was of a rough-and-ready order, satisfactory enough for so small a collection, but hardly devised to allow for any considerable expansion. This arrangement, which considerably simplified the tasks of locating books and keeping them in order, led to a difficult incident when, in 1902, a separate library building was constructed. It was a handsome structure and excellent for its purpose—quite the finest library building in the state—and I looked forward with great pride to taking up my work in it. The formal opening was planned for February 23, 1903, but the building was actually ready several months beforehand. The books were to be moved from the old library room during the Christmas vacation of 1902. I was very anxious to oversee this proceeding and was willing to give up part of my holiday to do so. President Kilgo insisted, however, that I go home for Christmas, assuring me

that he would himself supervise the moving of the books. Reluctantly I departed, enjoyed a pleasant vacation, and returned. On visiting the new library, I found that the books had been duly moved, but not the slightest attention had been paid to their arrangement, and it was impossible to locate a single specific title without a long search. I set to work at once to restore order, and a long and weary task it was, lasting several days, from early morning until the last afternoon light faded from the stack-room. I was too busy then to ask the reason for all this confusion; later I learned that old Kate, the college mule, had been hitched to the dray, and the campus foreman and his negro hands had loaded and unloaded the books. President Kilgo stood by while the first load was made, then took his dog and gun and went hunting.

Another memory of President Kilgo comes to me as I write. The city postman brought the mail to the library in those times, making three rounds each day. The library was not open in the evenings, and I therefore persuaded the postman to pay his third daily visit to my room in a house near the campus. The house belonged to the college, and I shared it with several other faculty bachelors. These gentlemen made a practice of visiting my room each evening to examine the two or three newspapers which the postman brought. Occasionally President Kilgo joined us and sat for a while to talk, sometimes telling stories of his boyhood or of the struggles he had had as Trinity's president. One of the former has stayed in my mind. President Kilgo's father, an itinerant Methodist minister, owned a farm in his native community which



he leased to a dependable tenant. He sent his young sons there during summer vacations; they helped with the farm work and were paid for their labor. On Saturdays they received their pay and sometimes drove with the farmer to town, nine miles away, to spend their small earnings. On one such occasion young John Kilgo decided to spend his money on coconuts; he had never had enough to satisfy him, he said, and for once he would eat his fill. He bought five, and on the long drive back to the farm, he and the farmer broke them open and ate them one by one. President Kilgo remarked wryly that he had never since that time felt any appreciable interest in coconuts.

With the new library building came other innovations. After some study of library methods, I introduced the Dewey decimal system of classification, which is still in use. I may also claim the honor of introducing the first typewriter into an institution where more than thirty such machines are now in daily use. In the early days all catalogue cards were written by hand, a great strain on the librarian's muscles as well as on the students' eyes. My penmanship, though clear as day to myself, was strangely a source of some difficulty to others. In 1903 or 1904, I decided that the problem could best be solved by the acquisition of a typewriter. With some diffidence, realizing

the grave expense involved, I requested of the President that a machine be purchased for the library; with no diffidence at all, he refused my request, alleging that the benefit to be derived from the use of a typewriter would not balance its cost. I was, I confess, obstinate; I bought a typewriter myself, though my budget suffered severely by the purchase. I installed it in the library and typed all cards from that date on. The success of the expenditure was proved by the fact that a second machine, purchased with college funds, later appeared.

There are many still living who can join with me in pleasant memories of old Trinity Library, who can recall, for example, meeting their girls for whispered conversations behind the tall alcoves of the old library room. (I myself inclined to observe such meetings with a sympathetic eye. President Kilgo, however, apparently thought that coeducation in the library was not conducive to good grades, for he took measures to segregate the sexes when planning the first library building, measures which naturally were never wholly successful.) Those who do not share personally in these reminiscences may profit by realizing from them what small beginnings our library had. The past half-century has seen a truly amazing expansion of its resources, and the promise for the future is great.

# PROGRAMS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

## THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY DINNER

A dinner-meeting of the Friends of Duke University Library took place on the evening of October 22, in the ball room of the University Union. One hundred and fifty members of the Friends assembled for the occasion, which was held in honor of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Breedlove and Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Powell. Professor Newman I. White presided over the meeting, and the invocation was pronounced by the Rev. George B. Ehlhardt.

After an excellent dinner, Professor White introduced President R. L. Flowers, whose brief address may be given in full:

Forty-eight years ago Duke University was small and struggling Trinity College, only recently moved to Durham from Randolph County. Today, that same Trinity College, surrounded by graduate and professional schools, is the heart of a University that continues to have its problems. Some of us here tonight have been closely identified with the institution through its many phases of development. I consider it a great privilege to be one of that number. To have watched the growth of Trinity into Duke University and to have been identified with its progress through the years, has been one of the most satisfying experiences of my life. Another person who, I am sure, shares a similar feeling of satisfaction is Joe Breedlove. I had not been here many years myself when Joe assumed the position of librarian soon after his graduation. For forty-eight years he has served in that capacity and the greatest tribute I can pay him, for myself and for Duke University,

is to say "well done." In recognition of Mr. Breedlove's distinguished service to the University the Friends of the Library are conferring upon him and Mrs. Breedlove honorary lifetime membership in their organization. We honor these two friends here tonight, and express the hope that they will continue actively interested in the growth of the Duke University Library.

I am happy at this time to welcome into our midst, and to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs. Powell. Mr. Powell has already assumed his duties as Librarian. I am always happy to welcome an alumnus to the campus, but I am especially happy to welcome one who is to be engaged in carrying on the work of the institution in an active way. We welcome both of you into the fellowship of this group and into the University community, and we wish for you personal happiness and success.

Mr. Powell next took the floor and, after an expression of thanks, introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Luther Evans, the Librarian of Congress. Dr. Evans, taking his cue from the occasion, spoke of Mr. Breedlove's long career as librarian of Duke University. These forty-eight years of service, beginning at a time when the South had not yet emerged from the lethargy which followed the agonies of the Civil War and the Reconstruction Period, have seen a rebirth of Southern culture, in which the development of the South's great libraries has played a significant part. In these years the Duke University Library itself has grown from a small collection of books, housed in a single room, to its present great extent. Mr. Evans pointed out the potent influence which such a library could and should exert in its re-



gion, showed how it could be not only a storehouse of knowledge but also an active mover in the increase and dissemination of knowledge. Stressing the fact that Duke University Library had entered early into the field of inter-library cooperation, he expressed his conviction that under the leadership of Mr. Powell the institution would participate energetically in the great co-operative programs which are marking the development of American library economy.

Much praise is due to the Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt and to the members of the Friends who assisted him in planning and arranging for this pleasant occasion. Under Mr. Ehlhardt's direction the Program Committee has made tentative plans for other meetings of the Friends during the current year, among them a lecture by Dr. William Warren Sweet early in 1947 and a visit and reading by Mr. Robert Frost in March.

## DESIDERATA

THE literature of American travel begins with the early accounts by European voyagers, more than a little bewildered at the gift of a brave, new world, and continues even today, with Americans themselves, as well as foreigners, busily discovering America. It is a vast and valuable body of literature, full of information on manners and customs, on the geography of the country and the character of its people, all presented from a variety of points of view. Henry T. Tuckerman, who explored the field nearly one hundred years ago, well described its resources:

We derive from each and all of these commentators on our country, information, not otherwise obtainable, of the aspect of nature and the condition of the people, at different eras and in various regions: we thus realize the process of national development; trace to their origin local peculiarities; behold the present by the light of the past; and, in a manner, identify ourselves with those to whom familiarity had not blunted the impression of scenes native to ourselves, and social traits and political tendencies too near for us to view them in their true moral perspective.

To present an example somewhat less than sublime, here is Isaac Weld's account of a classic Southern institution, as he witnessed it in 1790:

The people in this part of the country, bordering upon James River, are extremely fond of an entertainment which they call a barbecue. It consists in a large party meeting together, either under some trees, or in a house, to partake of a sturgeon or pig roasted in the open air, on a sort of hurdle, over a slow fire; this, however, is

an entertainment chiefly confined to the lower ranks, and, like most others of the same nature, it generally ends in intoxication.

For a number of years the Duke Library has unobtrusively—and at times almost unawares—been gathering a collection of American travel literature which now begins to assume quite considerable proportions. The recent work of several faculty members in assisting in the compilation of a bibliography of Southern travels has drawn our attention both to the extent of our collection and to the gaps therein. A future issue of LIBRARY NOTES will deal more fully with this subject, presenting a survey of Duke's holdings in American travel literature as well as a selection of unpublished travel letters from the Flowers Collection; meanwhile we list only a few needed titles in the hope that Friends of the Library may be willing to assist us in acquiring these books:

Ad d'A. *Esquisses américaines, ou Tablettes d'un voyageur aux États-Unis d'Amérique.* Paris, 1841.

Adolphe Fourier de Bacourt. *Souvenirs d'un diplomate. Lettres intimes sur l'Amérique.* Paris, 1882.

——— *Souvenirs of a diplomat. Private letters from America during the administrations of Presidents Van Buren, Harrison, and Tyler.* New York, 1885.

[George Ballentine] *Autobiography of an English soldier in the United States Army. Comprising observations and adventures in the States and Mexico.* New York, 1853.

Louis Auguste Félix de Beaujour. *Aperçu des États-Unis, au commencement du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, depuis 1800 jusqu'en 1810*

- avec des tables statistiques.* Paris, 1814.
- *Sketch of the United States of North America . . . from 1800 to 1810.* Translated by William Walton. London, 1814.
- [Andrew Bell] (A. Thomason, pseud.). *Men and things in America, being the experience of a year's residence in the United States, in a series of letters to a friend.* London, 1838.
- Henry Clark Benson. *Life among the Choctaw Indians, and sketches of the South-West.* Cincinnati, 1860.
- Berquin-Duvallon. *Travels in Louisiana and the Floridas, in the year 1802, giving a correct picture of these countries.* Translated from the French by John Davis. New York, 1806.
- J. Esprit Bonnet. *Tableau des États-Unis de l'Amérique au commencement du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle.* Paris, 1816.
- Jean Louis Bridel. *Le pour et le contre, ou, Avis à ceux qui se proposent de passer dans les États-Unis d'Amérique. Suivi d'une description de Kentucky et du Genesey, deux des nouveaux établissemens les plus considérables de cette partie du nouveau monde.* Paris, 1803.
- Jacques Pierre Brissot de Warville. *Nouveau voyage dans les États-Unis de l'Amérique septentrionale, fait en 1788.* Paris, 1791. 3 vols.
- Anacharsis Brissot [de Warville]. *Voyage au Guazacoalcos aux Antilles et aux États-Unis.* Paris, 1837.
- Patrick Campbell. *Travels in the interior inhabited parts of North America, in the years 1791 and 1792. . . .* Edinburgh, 1793.
- Francis, Comte de Castelnau. *Vues et souvenirs de l'Amérique du Nord.* Paris, 1842.
- Luigi, Conte Castiglioni. *Viaggio negli Stati Uniti dell'America Settentrionale, fatto negli anni 1785, 1786, e 1787.* Milan, 1790.
- Henry Castro. *Le Texas* [Anvers, 1845].
- François Auguste René, Vicomte de Chateaubriand. *Voyages en Amérique et en Italie.* Paris, 1828. 2 vols.
- John Alonzo Clark. *Gleanings by the way.* Philadelphia and New York, 1842.
- Thomas Coke. *Extracts of the journals of the Rev. Dr. Coke's five visits to America.* London, 1793.
- *A journal of the Rev. Dr. Coke's visit to Jamaica, and of his third tour on the continent of America.* London, 1789.
- Robert H. Collyer. *Lights and shadows of American life.* Boston [1844].
- Jonathan W. Condy. *A description of the river Susquehanna, with observations on the present state of its trade and navigation and their practicable and probable improvement.* Philadelphia, 1796.
- Michel Guillaume St. Jean de Crèvecoeur. *Voyage dans la haute Pensylvanie et dans l'état de New York, par un membre adoptif de la nation Onéida.* Paris, 1801. 3 vols.
- Charles Giles Bridle Daubeny. *Journal of a tour through the United States and in Canada, made during the years 1837-1838.* Oxford, 1843.
- Lorenzo Dow. *The life and travels of Lorenzo Dow, written by himself.* Hartford, 1804.
- Louis Dubroca. *L'itinéraire des Français dans la Louisiane, contenant l'histoire de cette colonie française, sa description, le tableau des mœurs des peuples qui l'habitent. . . .* Paris, 1802.
- Louis Marie Aubert DuPetit-Thouars. *Voyage autour du monde sur la frégate la Vénus, pendant les années 1836-1839.* Paris, 1840-1843.
- Mrs. Felton. *Life in America. A narrative of two years' city & country residence in*



- the United States. Hull, 1838.
- Samuel S. Forman. *Narrative of a journey down the Ohio and Mississippi in 1789-1790*. Cincinnati, 1888.
- Henri Jérôme Marie Fournel. *Coup d'oeil historique et statistique sur le Texas*. Paris, 1841.
- Frédéric Gaillardet. *L'aristocratie en Amérique*. Paris, 1883.
- P. L. Gelline. *Journal de mer d'un voyage à la Nouvelle-Orléans, capitale de la Louisiane. . . . 2 octobre 1841 au 21 février 1842*. Paris, 1842.
- Clara von Gerstner. *Beschreibung einer Reise durch die Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika in den Jahren 1838 bis 1840*. Leipzig, 1842.
- Franz Anton von Gerstner. *Die innern Communicationen der Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika*. Vienna, 1842-1843.
- [Chandler Robbins Gilman] *Life on the lakes, being tales and sketches collected during a trip to the pictured rocks of Lake Superior*. New York, 1836.
- John Robert Godley. *Letters from America*. London, 1844.
- Bernard Adolphe Granier de Cassagnac. *Voyage aux Antilles françaises, anglaises, danoises, espagnoles; à Saint-Domingue et aux États-Unis d'Amérique*. Paris, 1842-1844.
- Joseph John Gurney. *A journey in North America, described in familiar letters to Amelia Opie*. Norwich, 1841.
- Frederick Hall. *Letters from the east and from the west*. Washington [1840].
- James Hall. *A brief history of the Mississippi Territory, to which is prefixed, a summary view of the country between the settlements on Cumberland-River & the territory*. Salisbury [N. C.], 1801.
- George Harvey. *Harvey's scenes of the primitive forest of America, at the four periods of the year*. London, 1841.
- Henry, or The juvenile traveller; a delineation of a voyage across the Atlantic. London, 1836.
- An historical review of North America: containing a geographical, political, and natural history of the British and other European settlements, the United and apocryphal states, and a general state of the laws. To which are added, a description of the interior parts of North America. . . .* By a gentleman immediately returned from a tour of that continent. Dublin, 1789.
- Mrs. Matilda Charlotte Fraser Houstoun. *Texas and the Gulf of Mexico, or Yachting in the new world*. Philadelphia, 1845.
- [Thomas Horton James] (Rubio, pseud.). *Rambles in the United States and Canada during the year 1845, with a short account of Oregon*. London, 1846.
- John Dunmore Lang. *Religion and education in America, with notices of the state and prospects of American Unitarianism, popery and African colonization*. London, 1840.
- François Alexandre Frédéric, Duc de La Rochefoucauld Liancourt. *Voyage dans les États-Unis d'Amérique, fait en 1795, 1796 et 1797*. Paris, 1799. 8 vols.
- Isidor Loewenstern. *Les États-Unis et la Havane, souvenirs d'un voyageur*. Paris, 1842.
- James Logan. *Notes of a journey through Canada, the United States of America, and the West Indies*. Edinburgh, 1838.
- [James Lumsden] *American memoranda, by a mercantile man, during a short tour in the summer of 1843*. Glasgow, 1844.
- George Moore. *Journal of a voyage across the Atlantic with notes on Canada and the United States*. London, 1845.
- Morleigh, pseud. *Life in the west: Back-wood leaves and prairie flowers. Rough sketches on the borders of the pictur-*

- esque, the sublime, and the ridiculous.* London, 1842.
- Ambroise Marie F. J. Palisot de Beauvois. *Insectes recueillis en Afrique et en Amérique . . . pendant les années 1786-1797.* Paris, 1805-1821.
- Hugo Playfair. *Brother Jonathan, or The smartest nation in all creation.* London, 1840-1841.
- William Priest. *Travels in the United States of America, commencing in the year 1793 and ending in 1797. With the author's journals of his two voyages across the Atlantic.* London, 1802.
- Augustin Ravoux. *Mémoires, réminiscences et conférences de Monseigneur A. Ravoux.* St. Paul, Minnesota, 1892.
- Mrs. Anne Ritson. *A poetical picture of America, being of observations made, during a residence of several years at Alexandria, and Norfolk, in Virginia.* . . . London, 1809.
- Mrs. Lydia Howard Sigourney. *Scenes in my native land.* Boston, 1845.
- Mrs. Eliza R. Steele. *A summer journey in the West.* New York, 1841.
- Catherine Stewart. *New homes in the West.* Nashville, 1843.
- Samuel Stewart. *Travels and residence in the free states of America during the years 1840-41, illustrating the circumstances, condition, and character of the people, or The emigrants' hand-book.* Belfast, 1842.
- William Thomson. *A tradesman's travels in the United States and Canada.* Edinburgh, 1842.
- Constantin François Chassebœuf, Comte de Volney. *Tableau du climat et du sol des États-Unis d'Amérique.* . . . Paris, 1803.
- William N. Wyatt. *Wyatt's travel diary, 1836, with comment by Mrs. Addie Evans Wynn and W. A. Evans.* Chicago, 1930.

## GIFTS

THE Library has recently received a number of valued gifts. On the death of Professor Charles Abram Ellwood, long a generous contributor, his large collection of works on sociology was bequeathed to Duke University. Mrs. A. M. Gates and Mr. Warren Gates have presented several hundred volumes from the library of the late Professor A. M. Gates. Mr. G. F. Ivey, of Hickory, N. C., has donated about fifty books and pamphlets on the cotton industry. Of books on literary and historical subjects, Professor and Mrs. Allan H. Gilbert have donated seventy titles, Misses Hallie and Jean Holman about thirty. Miss Madaline Nichols has given a number of volumes in the field of Spanish-American literature. Lt. David L. Cozart continues to send from Berlin valued materials on Germany during and since the war. The Rev. George B. Ehlhardt has contributed many volumes of a religious or literary nature. Several additions have been made to the bookplate collection, and the Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt has placed on deposit in the Library over three hundred bookplates, chiefly American.

Mr. Clifford L. Hornaday, a Trinity graduate and for some years an instructor in German at the Trinity Park School and at Trinity College, recently presented a group of about seventy-five German books. These include sets of the collected works of Berthold Auerbach, Fritz Reuter, Wilhelm Hauff, and Otto Müller, a number of textbooks, and the 1922 edition of Curme's *Grammar of the German Language*. Mr. Hornaday, who is now teaching in Virginia, left Trinity to become presi-

dent of Davenport College, Lenoir, North Carolina.

Professor Frances Brown of the Chemistry Department has undertaken to build up in the Woman's College Library a collection of the writings of John Buchan, Lord Tweedsmuir; she has already presented about eight titles by this author, and has ordered many more. We draw particular attention to Miss Brown's gift because her method of procedure is one that may appeal to other members of the Friends. Most of us are aware that the writings of many modern authors—Aldous Huxley, T. S. Eliot, James Joyce, to name only a few—are but inadequately represented in the Library. To choose some such author, to purchase for the Library each of his new books as it appears, and to secure earlier titles missing from the library shelves, is a project that will prove interesting for the donor as well as profitable to the institution.

Books, pamphlets, and periodicals, on a wide variety of subjects, as well as generous monetary contributions, have been received from a number of faculty and staff members and other friends of the Library.

### THE ORIE LATHAM HATCHER COLLECTION

FOUR hundred and eighty-one volumes from the library of the late Dr. Orie Latham Hatcher have recently been received as a gift by Duke University Library.

Dr. Hatcher graduated from Vassar College in 1888. For the next dozen years she taught at the Richmond Female Institute, now the Woman's College, in Richmond, Virginia. She then





ORIE LATHAM HATCHER





went to the University of Chicago for graduate work in English; there she studied principally under Professors F. I. Carpenter, A. H. Tolman, and R. M. Lovett. In 1903 she received her Ph.D., presenting a thesis entitled *John Fletcher, A Study in Dramatic Method*, which was published in 1905. In 1904 she joined the faculty of Bryn Mawr College, where from 1910 until 1915 she was head of the department of Comparative Literature. She was also associate professor of English, 1912-1915. In 1907 she traveled in Italy. During this visit, as is shown by notes in her handwriting, she bought a large number of the Italian volumes now in the Duke Library. They indicate the interest in Italian literature that was one of her qualifications for college work in Comparative Literature. While at Bryn Mawr she published two articles in *Anglia*, one, "The Source of Fletcher's Monsieur Thomas," the other, "Fletcher's Habits of Dramatic Collaboration." Both show the use of good sense in reducing excessive claims by earlier writers. She also became interested in the Neo-Latin poet, Mantuan, and was translating his works and writing a book on him. The outbreak of World War I prevented a journey to Mantua for work that she considered vital to this study; hence it never was finished. In 1916 Dr. Hatcher issued her *Book for Shakespeare Plays and Pageants, A Treasury of Elizabethan and Shakespearean Detail for Producers, Stage Managers, Actors, Artists, and Students, Illustrated with nearly 200 Pictures and Portraits, mostly from Contemporary Sources*. The volume was "meant to be helpful in the production of any Elizabethan play or any representation of Eliza-

bethan life." Thus it was a deliberate attempt at the application of scholarship to various popular activities.

Not until about this time did Miss Hatcher find her primary vocation. In 1914 she founded and became president of the Southern Women's Educational Alliance, now the Alliance for the Guidance of Rural Youth. In 1915 she left academic work to devote herself to the problems of that organization, to the education and opportunities of women, and to education and public health generally. Her interests were not limited, however, as is shown by her founding of the Virginia Writers Club, and by her place on the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia. She was also one of the founders of the Richmond School of Social Work and Public Health. Her abilities were widely recognized, and she was an important worker in many organizations endeavoring to advance the cause to which she had devoted herself, such as the National Occupational Conference and the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy.

She also wrote extensively on such matters. Perhaps her best-known work is *Occupations for Women*; her latest work (with Ruth Strang), entitled *Child Development and Guidance in Rural Schools*, appeared in 1943.

Miss Hatcher continued, however, to cherish her Elizabethan and sixteenth-century Italian library and wished it to be used in forwarding the cause of that aspect of education to which she devoted her academic career. Knowing of the work of that type at Duke University, she decided to aid it by the gift of her collection. Other portions of her library went to other institutions.

The Elizabethan collection shows the

fundamental character of her interests, being made up primarily of sets of the great authors: the Bankside Shakespeare, the Variorum, the Cambridge, Leigh Hunt's and Dyce's Beaumont and Fletcher, the two important editions of Gascoyne, Bullen's Middleton, Bullen's Peel, Collins' Greene, Dyce's Shirley, Bond's Lyly, McKerrow's Nash in the subscription edition, the Pierson Heywood, both Weber's and Dyce's Ford, Bullen's Marston, and the works of Brome, Randolph, and Glapthorne. There are also Gregory Smith's *Elizabethan Critical Essays*, Greg's edition of Henslowe's *Diary*, Baker's *Biographia Dramatica*, Dibdin's *London Theatre*, 1818, in twenty-six volumes, Fleay's *Chronicle*, and many other works.

In the Italian collection striking single items are the *Opere* of Tasso, Venice, 1735, in ten volumes, and Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*, Venice, 1570; the latter contains the plates taken to England for Harington's translation of *Orlando*. A volume marked by Miss Hatcher, "Long sought and very valuable," is Giraldis Cinthio's *Hecatommiti*, Venice, 1584. Another copy of this work dates from 1565; many lacking pages have been supplied in early handwriting. These volumes are part of what may be called a collection of *novelle*, for here are Bocaccio, Bandello, Grazzini, Sacchetti, Masuccio, Strapolo, Parabosco, *Novelle morali*, *Il Pecorone*, *Le cento novelle antiche*, and *Cento novelle amorose dei Signori Accademici Incogniti*. Among the sixteenth-century editions are Sannazaro's *Arcadia* and Guicciardini's *Historia d'Italia*, Venice, 1567, published by Giolito. There are editions

of Dante, Petrarch, and many other authors.

Before the volumes were sent to Duke, they were provided with book plates after a design by Thomas Singleton. The motto applies to books the words of Spenser's mermaids, "the worlds sweet inne from paine and wearisome turmoyle" (*Faerie Queene*, 2.12.32). In the much-worn copy of Spenser included in the gift to Duke, this passage is marked. The designer of the plate has adapted two human figures from plate 138 of Miss Hatcher's *Book for Shakespeare Plays and Pageants*, thus appropriately carrying out one of the purposes for which that volume was intended.

The Hatcher collection is received with gratitude and will be immediately useful.

—Allan H. Gilbert

## RELIGIOUS WORKS

THE Library has recently received two important collections of religious works from the libraries of the late Bishop John Carlisle Kilgo, former President of Trinity College, and the late Dr. Charles C. Weaver.

The Kilgo collection was presented by Bishop Kilgo's children, Mrs. Edna Kilgo Elias, Mrs. Bailey T. Groome, J. Luther Kilgo, and John C. Kilgo, Jr. The collection consists of two thousand volumes and manuscripts, most of which are of a religious nature and will be housed in the Divinity School Library. Notable among these are the works of theological thinkers of the early twentieth century. Many of these volumes are now unobtainable, and the copies from the Kilgo Collection will supplement the present holdings of the

Library. A special bookplate has been prepared to go in these volumes.

The books from the Weaver library were especially selected from the excellent library of Dr. C. C. Weaver, former president of Emory-Henry College, by his wife. Each volume filled a gap in our collection and, because of the quality of the works, will prove to be of value in our daily class work. Many duplicates which are out of print and in great demand were included.

Other gifts which have been received

during recent months include important printed documents of the Anglo-American Commission on Palestine presented by Dr. W. F. Stinespring, who was an associate on the Commission. The Ormond Memorial Fund has presented a collection of books about the rural church, and the Rev. Phillip B. Trigg gave a collection of early Conference Minutes. Gifts have also been received from Miss Naomi Howie, Miss Mary E. Page, Dr. James Cannon, III, and Dr. James T. Cleland.

—George B. Ehlhardt.



## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

IN the course of participation in the Library of Congress program for the cooperative acquisition of recent foreign publications, the Duke University Library has received about three hundred volumes during the past few months. Under the sponsorship of the War Department and the Department of State, this program was set afoot in the summer of 1945 to aid American libraries in securing books from the occupied and liberated countries of Europe, where the normal commercial means of acquisition were not yet in operation. All American libraries, whether public or private in status, were given an opportunity to participate; about one hundred and fifty major libraries are now enlisted in the program. For the distribution of the books acquired, all the member libraries have been assigned priorities in various subject fields, in accordance with the strength of their previous holdings in those fields. Thus, when only a few copies of a foreign book can be acquired, these will go to the libraries which already possess good collections on the same subject. Geographical considerations have also influenced the assigning of priorities. The Duke Library has relatively high priorities in the following subjects: Romance and Germanic Languages, General Biography, Architecture, Painting, Sculpture, Socialism, and International Law; in the pure sciences, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Zoology, and Physiology; in the applied sciences, Forestry, Military and Naval Science, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Chemical Engineering.

Duke's rating is also high for books relating to the following countries: the British Isles, France, Germany, Greece, U. S. S. R., Switzerland, China, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Colombia, Ecuador, and Brazil.

The aim of the program, it should be said, is simply to make available to American libraries the works of research produced in Europe during the war years; the program in no way involves the removal from occupied countries of materials which belong to cultural institutions.

### THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PROFESSOR R. T. Cole, who is absent from the university on leave during the present academic year, has resigned his position on the Executive Committee of the Friends of the Library. Professor Cole's lively interest in the proceedings of the committee and his numerous helpful suggestions have made him a valued member, and his departure is much regretted. Professor Frances Brown of the Chemistry Department has consented to serve on the committee, where she is especially welcome because her vocation in the sciences has in no way detracted from her enthusiasm for the humanities; her active interest in the Library is described elsewhere in this issue.

At a recent meeting, the Executive Committee empowered the Chairman to appoint two new committees. The first of these will supervise the membership records of the Friends and will undertake measures for the extension of our membership among the university alumni. The second committee

will concern itself with encouraging in undergraduate students an interest in book-collecting and in the Library.

### ROBERT FROST

THE November, 1946 number of *The New Hampshire Troubadour* is a special issue devoted entirely to Robert Frost, and contains unpublished poems by Frost as well as several interesting articles on the poet. One hundred copies of this publication have been made available to the Friends of the Library; members desiring copies may obtain them by addressing a request to the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

### EXHIBITIONS

THE year's program of exhibitions in the University Library was opened in September with a display of twelve etchings and wood-engravings by modern artists. Loaned by a member of the library staff, the prints included three etchings of North Carolina scenes by Mr. Louis Orr, whose series of Duke Campus prints was so well received some years ago.

Professor Weston La Barre, of the Sociology Department, has generously offered to exhibit his fine collection of Orientalia, gathered in the course of wartime service throughout the Far East. These materials, which include textiles, metalwork, porcelains, and carved wood and ivory, fall into three groups, illustrating the cultures of China, India, and Ceylon. The Chinese exhibition, displayed during October and November, has attracted much favorable attention; the Indian and Singhalese will appear during the early

months of 1947. An enthusiastic and discriminating collector, Professor La Barre has still other materials to offer, including a large South American collection, which we hope to exhibit at a later date.

For the month of December, an exhibition on William Cullen Bryant was prepared, composed of books and manuscripts from the Bryant collection placed on deposit at Duke by Dr. Ernest R. Eaton of New York. The Library has recently purchased two small groups of Bryant letters—eighteen in all—which also appear in this exhibition.

Arrangements have been made for the presentation of the American Institute of Graphic Arts exhibition, the "Fifty Books of the Year," during the period from April 25 to May 15, 1947. These books are chosen for excellence of design and typography. It is hoped that the display of the "Fifty Books of the Year" may become an annual feature in the Library.

The concluding exhibition of the year will be one which we also hope to make an annual practice. During the University's centennial year, an exhibition dealing with the history of Duke University was set up in the Library of the Woman's College. Returning alumni, in particular, expressed pleasure at finding on display pictures of old Trinity and letters written by men prominent in the history of the institution. During the commencement period of each year we plan to present an exhibition of this nature, the content varying from year to year. It is a small but suitable contribution which the Library can make to the ceremonies of commencement time.

## THE STAFF ASSOCIATION

AT a business meeting of the Library Staff Association, held on September 4, the following officers were elected: President, Miss Helen Oyler; Vice-President, Miss Mary Canada; Secretary, Miss Mary Jo Kennedy; Treasurer, Mr. Edwin Hix; Member of the Executive Committee, Miss

Evelyn Harrison. On November 18, the association was addressed by the University Librarian, who spoke on the history of Southern libraries. The remainder of the year's programs will consist of symposia or lectures on subjects of interest to the staff; library planning is to be one of the topics under discussion.



# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 18

July 1947

## HOUSING THE BOOK COLLECTIONS

B. E. POWELL, Librarian

THE extraordinary growth of research libraries in recent years has focused attention on the problem of housing the millions of volumes added annually to American collections. Cooperative purchasing should check the geometrical increase—the doubling in size every sixteen years—which was the rule from the early decades of this century to the late war. Microfilm has been hailed as a partial solution. More recently, micro-cards have promised to supplant books and provide relief from congestion by reducing the bulk of our libraries to cards. Book storage warehouses are no longer regarded as innovations.

What are the implications of these devices for the Duke University Libraries? Each department of the undergraduate college and graduate school, and each professional school of the University, represents a commitment in the form of annual book and serial purchases which cannot be ignored. Although Duke ranks high among American research libraries, with more than three quarters of a million volumes, it still does not have the books already in print needed to support its teaching and research program. Faculties with twice our holdings at their disposal have shown little inclination to reduce their annual pur-

chases. Moreover, this library now has a responsibility to North Carolina, to the South, and to the nation. It must assist other libraries, particularly in the Southern region, in supplying the research materials requested of them.

But cooperative buying, especially of fringe material, should enable us to depend upon such neighbors as the University of North Carolina, Harvard, Chicago, and the Library of Congress for books which normally we might have bought. Eventually this policy of distributing among many libraries the responsibility for acquiring important but seldom used materials should slacken the growth of book repositories. Micro-cards have yet to be tried on a large scale. But microfilm has already freed hundreds of shelves which normally would have been laden with bulky and perishable bound volumes of newspapers. It will continue to substitute for scarce and expensive items, for those not available in other form, and particularly for materials on inferior paper.

So the library must continue to grow—more rapidly perhaps than others in this region. More space will be required, but some pressure will be removed by the practices just noted. Storage warehouses have provided re-

lief in a few instances—inexpensively constructed though fire-resistant warehouses, located on low-priced land. There is much to recommend them in areas where land on which to expand is costly or inconveniently located. There is likewise argument for holding the entire book collection under one roof, argument so strong that we should not yet consider dividing the collection of the General Library.

Recent numbers of *Library Notes* have contained references to crowded conditions in the General Library, conditions which for several years have retarded the growth of the research collections of the University and impaired the service normally expected of the staff. One hundred thousand volumes are off the shelves for lack of adequate space, and most of them are inaccessible. Almost half of the manuscripts collection is lodged in out-of-the-way storage basements and closets. The remarkable manner in which members of the library staff have attended to their duties in the face of this discouraging situation must be attributed to their faith and optimism, and to the understanding and forbearance of faculty and students. To all of them we are indebted.

Early relief from this acute congestion is anticipated. Plans are being completed for expansion of the General Library as soon as building conditions permit. In this proposed extension new space will be secured for air-conditioned stacks, office and working rooms for the staff, special reading rooms, microphotography laboratory,

listening and projection room, studies, and rooms for newspapers, maps, documents, archives, rare books, and manuscripts. The stack capacity will be increased now to approximately eight hundred thousand volumes and later to about two millions. Within the stacks will be constructed more than three hundred carrells and small studies. The seating capacity of the building will be increased from less than five hundred to nine hundred.

Quarters for rare books, manuscripts, and special collections will be given careful attention. Prior to the opening of the Rare Book Room, which contains the distinguished Trent Collection of Whitman materials, the library had made no provision for preserving adequately its accumulation of rare and unusual editions. These volumes are now being put in order, and the more important ones are shelved in the Rare Book Room. In the new quarters all of the collections of rare items will be assembled in a series of air-conditioned rooms under the administration of the Curator of Rare Books. The magnificent Flowers Collection of Southern manuscripts, comprising more than a million pieces, will have for the first time space permitting orderly arrangement and accessibility.

But all of the library's materials likewise will be more satisfactorily housed than now. Friends who would present gifts of books or manuscripts to the University may do so with the knowledge that the available facilities will insure their careful preservation.



# THOMAS JAMES WISE: FRIEND OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

PASSAGES FROM HIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROFESSOR NEWMAN I. WHITE

*Compiled by ELLEN FRANCES FREY*

THE career of Thomas James Wise, distinguished English book-collector and bibliographer, has been the subject of much study and surmise during the ten years which have passed since his death on 13 May 1937. He left behind him the magnificent Ashley Library and a group of splendid bibliographies of English authors; he left also a name clouded by its connection with an elaborate program of literary forgery. The ramifications of this program and the motives which lay behind it have not yet been satisfactorily explained, nor does this paper propose to contribute in any degree to the solution of the mystery. During the last years of his life Mr. Wise performed many acts of kindness for the library of Duke University, and it is in this light alone that we now consider him, a friend of our library and the man responsible for our acquisition of many beautiful and rare books.

Throughout his career Mr. Wise on many occasions responded courteously and generously to inquiries addressed to him by American scholars. One of these inquiries came from Professor Newman I. White of Trinity College, who first wrote to Mr. Wise on the sixteenth of August, 1924, asking about the contents of a rare Shelley pamphlet. The correspondence thus begun continued until the death of Mr. Wise; it is of great interest, full of discerning comments on literary history and of vivid reminiscences of the authors

whom Wise had known.<sup>1</sup> Much of this material we must pass over until, coming to the year 1930, we find the first reference to Duke University Library. Professor White had written to ask whether Mr. Wise would be willing to sell to Duke such duplicates as he acquired in the course of collecting his own library. Mr. Wise's reply, dated 4 August 1930, was somewhat hesitant:

Regarding the other matter with which your letter deals, I have no duplicates whatever just now that would be of any use to you. I frequently *do* have duplicates, & these I always turn over to Maggs Bros. who credit me for them. But if in future any suitable ones chance to occur, I will advise you. I am constantly improving the condition of my books by buying better copies when such come along; & of course sometimes I have to take a duplicate in order to secure something I want. So I *may* be able to help you later on.

The next letter to contain a reference to Duke University is dated more than a year later; in the interim a satisfac-

<sup>1</sup> These letters have been presented to the University Library by Professor White; with his permission the following excerpts are here published. The collection, covering the period from 16 August 1924 to 21 February 1938, includes thirty-nine letters from Mr. Wise to Professor White; the original of one letter and drafts or carbon copies of ten letters from Professor White to Mr. Wise; ten letters from Mrs. Wise to Professor and Mrs. White; five letters from other persons to Mr. Wise; and fifteen miscellaneous pieces, chiefly clippings.

tory arrangement for Duke's acquisition of Mr. Wise's duplicates has been concluded.

25, Heath Drive,  
Hampstead, N.W. 3  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1931

Dear Mr. White,

It seems ages since I heard from you. Have you been writing any further papers on Shelley? Pray do not forget me if you print any more. I think the news I have to tell you this morning will be of interest to you. You will remember no doubt that in the Preface to "A Shelley Library" I told a Tale of Woe regarding my fight with Mr. Halsey for the Freeling-Carlingford copy of the "Proposals for an Association of Philanthropists," for the possession of which he beat me at £530. That was in the spring of 1903. Ever since that dark day I have been writhing under a sense of defeat, and lamenting the loss of the tract. During all these years no third example has come to light (the second is in the Bodleian); and now at long last one has been found in Dublin. It is clean and uncut, and in the original state as issued. The owner promptly sent it to Sotheby's for sale by Auction. Sotheby's very kindly showed it to me, & with much trouble induced the owner (a physician in Dublin) to agree to withdraw it from the Sale-Room, & to dispose of it to me by private treaty. The end of the matter was that last Thursday the little waif became mine at the price of £900.—, a by no means unreasonable figure. Had the pamphlet come to light during the recent 'boom' period the price would no doubt have been somewhere in the neighborhood of £1500., or possibly even more. So now my Shelley Library draws very near to completion. Adding together the two events of 1903 & 1931, the result forms quite a tiny romantic bibliophilic story!

But here is a coincidence almost too strange to be true, & yet it *is* true.

We have just dealt with a pamphlet by

*Shelley* of which during a whole life-time only 2 copies were known: a third came to light, and I secured it. Now I have to tell you of a pamphlet by *Coleridge* of which, also throughout a life time, only two examples could be recorded. Now a third copy of this also has drifted into the market, and I have secured it. The only difference is that whilst the Shelley pamphlet is, regarded as literature, a worthless rag, only of value because of its Author & its rarity,—the Coleridge pamphlet is one of its author's highly important prose writings. The book in question is the "Treatise on Method," privately printed in 1818. As you are probably aware, until now we were only able to indicate two surviving specimens of the book; one belonged to Ernest Hartley Coleridge; the other, had been given by Coleridge to Dr. James Gillman, Coleridge's friend and physician, in whose house at High[g]ate he died. From Gillman's grand-daughter, Mrs. H. G. Watson, I purchased it nearly 30 years ago.

A few months ago I was offered a small but very choice collection of rare First Editions of Coleridge which had belonged to his life-long friend and sole literary Executor Dr. Joseph Henry Green. The little packet included superb copies of the two Bristol Lectures "Conciones ad Populum," & "The Plot Discovered"; a fine set of the 10 original numbers of "The Watchman"; and a clean UNCUT copy of "A Treatise on Method." Both the hitherto known examples of the book were *trimmed*, though only slightly so, but of course I wanted this uncut specimen. The owner would not sell it alone, so in order to acquire it I bought the lot!

For some while past Mr. Thompson, of Mss. Stevens & Brown, have been asking me if I had not turned up any more duplicates for you; so I have handed these Coleridge books to him for you, having exchanged my old Coleridge-Gillman-Watson copy for this Coleridge-Green one. With them I have given to Mr.

*Ms.*  
—

*This beautiful copy of  
the first edition of  
Coleridge's "Conciones  
ad Populum" is one of  
the largest and finest  
specimens of the book I have  
ever seen. It was formerly  
the property of Coleridge's  
friend Dr. Joseph Henry  
Green. When it came into  
my hands it was bound  
up with "The Plot—*



The end-leaves of the copy of Coleridge's *Conciones ad Populum* sent to Duke University Library by Mr. Wise, showing his bookplate, a note in his hand, and the dentelle decoration known at Riviere's as "Mr. Wise's roll."



THE  
H I N D  
AND THE  
PANTHER.  
A  
P O E M,

In Three Parts.

———*Antiquam exquirite matrem.* } Virg.  
*Et vera, incessu, patuit Dea.* ———

L O N D O N,  
Printed for Jacob Tonson, at the Judges Head in  
Chancery Lane near Fleetstreet, 1687.

The title-page of the handsome copy of Dryden's *The Hind and the Panther* which Mr. Wise sent to the Duke Library.

Thompson a number of duplicates which I have sorted out. These include several pamphlets printed by me or by Clement Shorter. They are the only copies of each I have left apart from those included in the Ashley Catalogue. I think I once told you that throughout the larger portion of my life I have always passed my duplicates (which I cannot help accumulating) to Mss. Maggs Bros, who have taken them all at a uniform rate of "half current catalogue price." I have asked Mr. Thompson when communicating with you regarding the present pieces to act in precisely the same manner: that is to estimate the present (not recent) value, & charge you half that sum. I have slipped into many of the books a brief note recording the source from which they came to me. There is a beautiful copy of Dryden's "Hind & Panther." This is a book of which quite a number of copies are extant, but which is almost unobtainable in fine condition. The book was popular at the time of its appearance in 1687, & practically every copy that comes up for sale is more or less cropped & dirty.

A short while ago I received a copy of the "Analytical List of D. G. Rossetti MSS. in Duke University," & was extremely interested in it. Your friend Professor Baum has dealt with the MSS. in a masterly manner, & has made a most interesting study of them. His book will be of considerable value to the future editor, whoever he may prove to be, of the final variorum edition of Rossetti's verse, —for a variorum edition there will have to be, so infinite are the changes made in the text of Rossetti's poems. . . . I wonder if you are aware that all these MSS of yours were once mine. I bought the collection from W. M. Rossetti's son & daughters, to whom they belonged jointly. First I selected from them what I required to fit in with other things in my own collection. Then Mr. Marchbank (an old and valued friend) had a look through them, & took out what *he* cared for: i.e.

the pencil-draft of "Jan van Hunks," & one or two poems. The remainder went as usual to Mss. Maggs Bros, who gave me for them just about half the sum at which they were catalogued. From Maggs they were purchased by the Duke Library. It is a pity I was not at that time aware of your wants, as had it been otherwise you would have been saved a substantial part of the cost.—

Pray forgive me for inflicting all this verbose chatter upon you. But I am full of joy over my acquisition of the Shelley pamphlet,—and somehow I felt impelled to share my joy with you! I promise to be good in future, & not worry you at so painful a length again. Believe me to be,

Very sincerely yours

Thos. J. Wise.

I am now plunging once more into the Bibliography of Byron.

To this letter Professor White drafted an answer on the twentieth of November, speaking enthusiastically of the books Mr. Wise had sent:

. . . this morning I helped unpack the books you let us have and received almost as big a thrill as you did when you made those two amazing purchases. Farewell to any notion of working on my book this morning. Handling fine books is vastly better than writing grubby ones.

I congratulate you on your marvellous good fortune in acquiring two such items as the Shelley and Coleridge ones. The story ought to become a classic among bibliophiles. The Shelley item in particular is really awe-inspiring. To have an agent commit an irretrievable blunder, and then, after nearly thirty years (during which your wrath, I guess, never cooled) to have the incredible opportunity come swimming serenely into view as if such a thing as the law of averages never existed! It must have given you a queer feeling when you actually realized that the copy was yours. . . . It has always

seemed to me that a flaw in the fashionable pessimistic philosophy (dour as I am myself, very often) is a failure to realize that the big moments are really tremendous and can make countless small ones (in Shelley's phrase) "shrink to annihilation."

The unpacking of your duplicates was a big moment for me. Simply handling them and knowing that they were ours was a big thrill, but beyond that was an almost prophetic exaltation which may seem absurd to you unless I inflict an explanation. Since you have become a party to the development of the Duke University Library, I think I will inflict it.

Here Professor White goes on to tell the story we all know, the story of the development of Trinity, "a small college of fair standards but no particular distinction" into a university potentially great, and of the part played by James Buchanan Duke in this metamorphosis. He continues:

My special interest, of course, is the library. It is often hard to get hold of the money for special opportunities, and very slow work . . . persuading trustees that the library is the soul of a great center of knowledge and that sums of money much larger than they consider reasonable must be spent to bring our library to a par with our buildings or with the older university libraries. The little collection of books that you let us have on such generous terms is by far the rarest and most elegant group of books we have. I am recommending that they be set apart as the Wise collection, hoping that we can add to them from time to time and that they will stimulate more students to a love of rare and beautiful books. The more of this sort of thing we have, the more rapidly will our library take a proper stride and direction in its growth.

After expressing the hope that Mr. Wise will continue to send his dupli-

cates to Duke, Professor White makes a further suggestion. Aware of Mr. Wise's intention that the Ashley Library should eventually go to the British Museum, he asks whether Mr. Wise will consider recommending that the British Museum at that time sell to Duke "a number of its own less perfect copies thus rendered duplicates."

Should this be in any way embarrassing to you, simply disregard the suggestion; but if it should prove feasible you have no idea what a tremendous benefit it would be to a library where some of your books are already regarded as prize possessions.

\* \* \* \* \*

No more (and you may well say, too much) of Duke University. It might interest you to know that one of the books you sent will be put to immediate use by an acquaintance of yours. Professor Lewis Patton, who called upon you several years ago with a letter from me, is editing "The Watchman." He has been working hitherto with a photostat of the Harvard copy.

I was quite curious about the first edition of *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers* bound with blank leaves for annotations and collations. The notes were in an early hand and one of them quoted from Moore's Life of Byron. What piqued my curiosity most was that the handwriting is not utterly dissimilar to Byron's and the notes signed B. and Byron were to my unpracticed eye very good imitations indeed. Some editor of Byron, probably. Do you remember anything about it? Possibly it was one of the duplicates you acquired. It is mere curiosity, and not worth your troubling yourself about.

---

25, Heath Drive,  
Hampstead, N.W. 3  
December 6<sup>th</sup> 1931

Dear Mr. White,

I received two days ago your long, but far too short, letter of Nov. 22, and a pe-



rusal of it has afforded me a very considerable amount of pleasure. All that you have told me in it regarding the founder of the Duke University is news to me, & moreover is news of a character that makes a very strong appeal to my sympathy, and awakes an interest in your institution I had never dreamed would be excited. Why did you not make me acquainted with all this long ago? The fact is I have throughout the greater portion of my mature life had a great deal to do with the formation of public libraries of this character. I was one of the advisers of Mrs. Rylands and Dr. Green when the Rylands Library was in course of formation. I was, I think, by a long way the chief help in the accumulation of the Wrenn Library at Austin, Texas,—as you will no doubt have seen in my introduction to the beautiful & highly important Wrenn Catalogue. And lastly I was making myself responsible for the plan to be followed in the purchase of books for the Brotherton Library at Leeds, when an unkind Fate took Lord Brotherton away. This ambitious project was to have been a really “Big Thing.” Lord Brotherton was a man of great wealth,—he left when he died last year, between 5 & 6 millions sterling. He was a widower with no children. He knew nothing whatever about Books, and yet he loved them, & during the last 5 years of his life, when we stood upon terms of close intimacy, nothing gave him greater pleasure than to sit either in my modest book room here, or in his own noble library at Roundhay Hall, Leeds, and chat over his treasures. Together we formulated a plan which was just being put into execution when he suddenly died just 18 months ago. His ambition was to raise a monument to his name in the form of a splendid library for his native town. As he so often remarked with emphasis—“I intend to do for Leeds what John Rylands did for Manchester.” And he would have done it, & in some ways the result would have been a foun-

dation of far wider interest & of a broader range of usefulness than the Rylands Library has proved to be, or is likely to prove in the future. The basis of the Rylands Library was intended to be of a clerical nature. I pressed upon Lord Brotherton to make his library a centre of activity for the study of *live literature*: the work of the great classic writers of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries; roughly dating from the Restoration of Charles II to the death of Thomas Hardy. This would place Leeds University on a level with the collections at the British Museum, The Bodleian, & the Rylands Library,—for in all three instances this is just the period in which those 3 libraries are woefully deficient. In fact the lines upon which the collection of my own library is based. The very last discussion I had with him, in company with his own librarian Mr. Symington, resulted in his giving instructions to “go ahead with Byron & Coleridge.”

About a year before he died Lord Brotherton approved the plans for the erection of the building, & handed over the sum of £100,000. to pay for it. And just a week before his death he signed the document providing the trustees with an additional £30,000. as an endowment fund for the remuneration of the librarian & an assistant. A very substantial & sufficient sum was to have been provided for the endowment of the library itself; the purchase of Books, &c., but his unexpected death took place before this proposal was carried out. Now it will never be done. . . . But I am chattering away instead of replying to your letter! This will, I fear, have to be answered by instalments: I cannot deal with it all this Sunday afternoon.

I rejoice to hear that you find the books (mostly duplicates from my own collection) I sent you, So far as I can see, & so far as I can penetrate your mind, these are just of a class you & your colleagues desire. And they are of the right class & kind. So far as I am aware no public library in America is as yet

properly furnished with original editions of the authors in question. At Harvard they seem to be doing their best to gather the books of *Pope*: At Austin, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Stark, they are buying Shelley & Byron: at Waco they are keen on Browning: at Yale they are making an effort to fill up with the dramatic poets, both Elizabethan (so called) & Restoration. But all are shockingly incomplete, judging from what I am told by students who come here, & who correspond with me, upon these subjects. That is why the British Museum Authorities are so keen to have my library at my death,—which they will have. When you asked me to let you have my duplicates, &c., at first (forgive me for confessing it!) I did not take to the idea. But upon further consideration I rather liked the idea,—largely, I will admit, in consequence of your repeated kindness to me in enabling me to acquire the privately-printed Shelley pamphlets written by yourself. So I asked Mr. Thompson (the partner at Stevens & Brown's who attends to rare books & MSS) to send for what I had, & instructed him to make a careful valuation of them at present market prices: that is the prices at which the books would be marked in the catalogue of a reliable dealer, or which they might be expected to bring in the sale room, & to charge you *half* this sum. Mr. Thompson acted as I wished, & in due course he 'phoned me that he valued the little collection at "about £650, making £325. at half value. I replied to him telling him to call it £300. in order to be on the safe side. As you will gain the benefit of the present fall in Anglo-American Exchange, which is something like 25%, you will have made a really cheap purchase,—to my own very considerable satisfaction. Perhaps you may like to know why I said "Charge them Half"? Thereby hangs a tale which I really must relate to you.

Many years ago, somewhere about the year 1890, it was my frequent habit to go,

accompanied by Mr. F. S. Ellis, to Ha[m]mersmith, & spend a couple of hours in the study of William Morris at Kelmscott House, leaving after tea, when I more often than not went on either to The Pines or to W<sup>m</sup> Rossetti's place in Endsleigh Gardens to supper. Morris was then sunken deep in his Socialism, & was the chief fountain from which the horrid gang of Hammersmith Socialists drew their funds. One afternoon, just as I was leaving, he handed me the MS. of one of his books, & said: "Would you like to buy this?" "Of course I would," I replied, "how much am I to pay for it?" "*Tell me what it's worth,*" he answered, "*And give me half;* these damned blighters want a lump tonight, & I'm bust." (Morris, as you know, "swore like a trooper,"—but he was a *clean* swearer: I never heard him use a filthy word, or one that was blasphemous.) You may imagine how pleased I was at this reply. It shewed me that in the first place he appreciated my knowledge & judgment in the matter of value, & in the second place that he had confidence in my honour & knew that my estimate would be a fair one, & would not be influenced by the fact that I was a party to the deal. Well: for some years now, certainly more than 20, I have had an arrangement with Maggs Bros to take all my duplicates, & things I did not want but which I had to buy when purchasing some "lot" in which was some item I did want. When the first transaction took place & Mr. Maggs asked me how much I claimed I made the same reply that Morris made to me: "Tell me what they are worth & give me half." This arrangement has continued. I have a box upstairs into which I place all my duplicates &c. as they occur, & when it is full I hand them over to Maggs. Now I have re-christened it "The Duke Box"! That MS. I bought from Morris was the first of his MSS. I ever had,—but the one I loved best was one I did not acquire until long after his death. I used in early



days to go to South Place Chapel, Finsbury. Not in the morning to "Services," but in the evening to the Lecture. South Place Chapel was at that time run by Moncure D. Conway, a countryman of yours, I believe. He was the leader of the South Place Ethical Society. His habit was to have a regular almost conventional Service on Sunday mornings, and in the evenings have a Secular Lecture, just on a line with Stopford Brooke's system at Bedford Chapel, Bloomsbury. Upon some occasions he delivered the lecture himself; more often he induced some other man to take his place. One Sunday the lecturer was announced to be William Morris. Up to then I had never even *seen* Morris, & I was soaked with the beauties of "The Earthly Paradise" & other of his lovely poems which have yet to be appreciated at their real worth. So to South Place I went that evening, & heard Morris deliver his now well known address "Useful Work versus Useless Toil." Little did I dream that the blue folio sheets I watched him turn over would one day become mine!

Later on I became intimate with Morris, as I did with both Swinburne & Browning. But what a difference there was between the three men! Great as is the difference between their work, greater still was the difference in their characteristics & their natures. Browning & Morris were men to inspire affection: both were "loveable" men to a high degree. Swinburne on the other hand awoke no love. He held one in admiration of his knowledge & his power: his conversation was a spell. One could have knelt at his feet: one could never have kissed his hand. He was a typical "little gentleman" to look at. A perfect aristocrat in miniature: sometimes he seemed almost 'possessed': his movements a kind of half-leap: his voice raised almost to a scream. Browning was a polished English gentleman, in spite of his (at the time I knew him) somewhat Gallic appearance. Faultless in dress:

perfectly groomed. His silk hat & his closely-rolled umbrella looked ever as new. In fact he & Sir Frederic Leighton, close companions & constant friends, were a pair. Did any one ever see either of them abroad without his famous yellow gloves? I never did; they even accompanied him on that, to me, memorable windy afternoon when he accompanied me in a Hansom Cab to Rimell's book shop in Oxford St to inspect the newly-found copy of Mrs Browning's "Battle of Marathon," a story I have told in the Preface to "A Browning Library." He was a constant diner out, & he never "talked shop." A stranger would never have dreamed he was a poet. He would, & frequently was, taken to be a well-read & widely-travelled man of the world. Swinburne? He never did anything else than talk Shop. His work was his world, & he thought & cared for nothing else.

And Morris? Heaven save us, what a contrast! Like Swinburne he did talk Shop: but it was a shop of many departments. Poetry: Art: Socialism: Decoration: Economics: and *Men*. In appearance he was as unconventional and as unconcerned as could be. Always a soft hat: a silk hat would have driven him mad. Never a glove: a glove would have driven him equally mad. Only one form of dress, a dark blue reefer suit, usually with brass buttons, giving him the appearance of a bluff old sea-captain, a real "Salt ashore," an illusion to which his short stout figure, his deeply-coloured complexion, & his rolling gait largely contributed. And *swear*! Good Heaven he never opened his mouth without an oath. It relieved his feelings, & did him a world of good. But his language meant nothing. It was just clean & useful expletive: his way of letting off the steam. But I never heard either Robert Browning or Algernon Swinburne utter even a simple Dam! Steady!! Here have I filled 6 sheets of paper and not even made a commencement at replying to your letter! But

you have started me thinking of the past this afternoon, & I could not prevent myself from chattering. But if only you will forgive me this time, I'll promise to be good & behave myself in future. But believe me to be, in spite of my failings,

Yours very sincerely,

Thos. J. Wise

25, Heath Drive,  
Hampstead, N.W. 3.  
December 13<sup>th</sup> 1931

Dear Mr. White,

Last Sunday afternoon I made a start at replying to your long & interesting letter of Nov. 22,—and made a dismal failure of it, largely as a result of indulging in my unhappy habit of drifting into chatter when I find myself interested in any subject. This afternoon I will try to be good, & reply to the points of your letter seriously.

At this point Mr. Wise writes at length upon Professor White's plan to edit a volume of selections from Shelley and upon the contemporary reputations of Byron, Shelley, and Swinburne. Later he turns to matters more nearly concerning the Duke Library:

I am at present steeped in Byron, & am at last printing a complete Bibliography of his Works. Immediately I was quit of Pope, early last spring, I put all else on one side & set to work to get together all the mass of material I had gathered during a life-time, & gradually and slowly studied & assimilated, with the final Bibliography in view. Now the time has come to bring my work to fruition. I hope to issue the book about this time next year. Immediately that is off my hands I shall apply myself to doing the same with Shelley. I have studied him & his books for more than 50 years, & throughout the whole of that period I have had the one end in view. You know what

my Collection of Shelley is. My collection of Byron is almost on a par with it. I possess *every* First Edition of Byron, & quite a goodly number of his Manuscripts & Letters. When the book is out, I propose to go over my store, & put into the "Duke Box" all the duplicates there may be. There are, I know, some very desirable & scarce items which I fancy you will be glad to have. But this matter I can correspond with you about later on. I have already some of the Bibliography in type. If it should be of any interest either to you or to Mr. Morrell to have them, I will send you a set of the galley proofs as they come from the printers. The main Bibliography will make a big book, probably as large as one of the volumes of the Ashley Catalogue, & will even then be followed by a Supplement. I am meeting with the warmest sympathy & help from every quarter. Even from America, from Los Angeles & from Philadelphia, I am having the loan of rare pieces in order that I may be enabled to compare them with my own examples. Best of all Colonel John Murray ("John Murray the Fifth") has afforded me full use of the "Murray Archives" (they have the firm's ledgers & the printer's bills for the whole of the Byron period), & has lent me corrected proofs, &c. for use at home. So I am in an unique position, & able to get to the very root of all matters which might otherwise have been debateable. I have also made many so-called "discoveries"; & on the whole I think the Bibliography will prove to be an eye-opener to a large number of people. Have you my book "A Shelley Library"? I wish now that I had sent to Duke University my Bibliographies & Catalogues in the past, each as it was printed. I am always glad to give them to such libraries as you appear to be forming. I shall not fail to send you everything of that nature I may print in future. So pray do not purchase them. I have nothing of the past save a copy or two of "A



Landor Library." If you have no copy of this I will gladly send you one.

I will worry you with no more today. Next Sunday I will complete my reply to your letter.

Always sincerely yours

Thos. J. Wise

---

25, Heath Drive,  
Hampstead, N.W. 3.  
December 20<sup>th</sup> 1931

Dear Mr. White,

Here goes for the third of my attempts to reply to your letter of Nov. 22nd, & my third trial of your patience!

First of all you suggest doing me the honor of connecting my name with the little cluster of books I shall be able to let you have.

Naturally this generous suggestion is both attractive and gratifying to me. *But*—I am a modest man, and nothing is more distasteful to me than anything that has the smallest appearance of self-advertisement. What you have to consider, & what I seriously beg you to consider, is: "What is in the best interest of Duke's University, & what is most likely to serve to enhance the fame of its library?"

As I think I have already told you, I have for many years past disposed of my duplicates to Mss. Maggs Bros. For the future these shall go to you, if you wish to have them. I am hard at work completing the Bibliography of Byron, which I hope to have out of my hands in the late spring of next year, & to issue some time in the autumn. When this time arrives I shall have a number of duplicates of Byron which will be at your disposal. So that next summer I shall be able to make up for you another parcel. I commenced buying Byron's first & early editions in the form of fine & clean *cut* copies, & gradually replaced these with copies in wrappers as the opportunity presented itself. But I retained the former even when they were replaced by the latter, because I thought it wise to employ them for the

purpose of study & collation, rather than run the risk of damaging my "mint" copies. As soon as the Bibliography is done with these will be free. I shall go carefully through my Byron collection & remove what I can spare. I know there are some of the rare ones, such as the real First Edition of "The Bride of Abydos," & First Editions of "The Giaour," "The Monody on Sheridan," "The Age of Bronze," "The Island," &c. &c. I will also look over my Popes, which I have not touched since I made an end of the Pope Bibliography last spring. I know that I have at least *one* of the big Pope rarities in duplicate. Somehow or other you have caused me to take a personal interest in the library of your University, & I have no doubt that will influence me when I look to see what I can let go.

But that is all in the future! What I *ought* to do, & what in more prosperous times I should have been glad to do, is to *give* you these books. But times are the reverse of prosperous. In common with most men I have suffered a reduction of income of rather a serious nature, & the pressure of taxation is increasing heavy. I have to think first of the requirements of the Ashley Library, and have to be prepared to fill what gaps there still are when the needed items turn up. And such items are almost invariably of great rarity & of increasingly high price, such as the Shelley & the Coleridges I acquired a few months ago. Hence I have had to relinquish the idea of being a "public benefactor" outside the disposal of the Ashley Library.

Nevertheless I *am* helping you I know, —because you will be able to obtain a number of good & suitable pieces at the price the booksellers *pay* for them, and not at the price at which the booksellers *sell* them. And as you gain at least 25% by the exchange, you will be doing well. So my conscience no longer troubles me, as it did when first I thought over your proposal.

Now you ask me if it would be possible to make some arrangement by which you might obtain from the British Museum some of the books they already possess when the Ashley Library becomes their property. I fear it will not be possible. Their idea is this. The Ashley Library is to be kept intact in a room by itself, just as the Grenville Library is today. A special press-mark will be attached to the books, & no book will be issued to a reader when a copy is in the general library. There are a *very* large number of books in the Ashley Library of which the Museum has no copy at all. These of course will be available to students, but only in a special room & under strict observation. The authorities wish to preserve the books in fine state for the benefit of future generations, & for use in their frequent Exhibitions. Of the class of books of which the Ashley Library mainly consists the Museum has a shockingly poor store. Until Dr. Pollard's time the funds available for the purchase of books were mainly devoted to the acquisition of Illuminated MSS., early Classics, Historical bindings, & manuscripts of national importance. All quite well & good. The trustees could not buy everything. Hence they have neglected the Classics of English Literature, & their stock of the books of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries is miserable in the extreme. Most of the books are worn out, cropped & soiled, no half-titles, & all that sort of thing, & to replace them would entail a very large expenditure, & would be an extremely difficult—almost an impossible task. Hence their very great anxiety to have *my* collection. Some while ago Dr. Pollard remarked to me; "Had you, when you commenced to build up your library, had in view the end it must serve, that it must after your death go to Bloomsbury, you could not possibly have made a better or wiser selection." And I know this to be true. The only one of the Trustees of the Museum with whom I stand upon terms of intimacy is Lord Crawford.

When next I meet him I will mention the subject to him, but I know only too well what his reply will be.

Just about a century ago the then Trustees did dispose of a large number of duplicates. Each has a big stamp "British Museum Duplicate" upon the back of its title-page. And that action has been bitterly regretted ever since. During the time that has passed many of those 'duplicates' have had to be repurchased at vastly enhanced prices, because they were not duplicates at all! They *looked like* duplicates, but were not actual duplicates at all. Even so late as 10 years ago many of the First Editions of Byron (for example) would under such circumstances have been turned out of any library. Now that I have studied and collated them, & have found so many 'issues,' 'variants,' & even 'editions,' all masquerading as "First Editions," as likely as not it would turn out that the very items discarded were the very ones which ought to have been kept.

I am glad to know that Professor Patton has found my—or your—or may I say *our*—"Watchman" of use. It is a large & fine copy, & vastly superior to the specimens that usually turn up. Until I acquired my unique uncut copy I am sure I never saw a better. Please offer my regards to Professor Patton & suggest to him that he might find it worth while to turn up my "Two Lake Poets," p. 61, & look at the record I have made of my copy which belonged to Coleridge himself, & has his notes & comments upon its margins.

I am interested to know that your Mr. Morrell is a son of Morrell the English binder. He will appreciate the Riviere bindings upon the books I have sent you. I always choose my own skins at Riviere's, and the dainty dentelle roll inside the covers is called "Mr. Wise's Roll" at the Haddon St Works. I love these plain bindings, but for them only the finest skins can be successfully employed. The less perfect skins do for books with a lot



of gold tooling upon them, for *the tooling covers up the flaws in the leather*.

I note you mention "the First Edition of English Bards," &c. I do hope that Stevens & Brown did not make any mistake & so mislead you. It is *not* a copy of the First Edition, which has a watermark dated 1805. This is a copy of one of the unauthorized editions of the Third Edition, impudently produced by Cawthorn. And the notes are *not* in the handwriting of Lord Byron.<sup>2</sup> I have devoted much time & labour to the study of these long series of spurious editions of "English Bards"; you will observe the result when the Bibliography reaches your hands. Very soon, early next year, I shall have it all in galley proof. If you'd care for a set of the galleys you shall have one. The book *was* mine, & had been mine for many years.

I think now I have completed replying to all in your letter, & now can bring my chattering to a close. "Thank God for this his crowning mercy!" I fancy I can hear Professor Newman I. White exclaiming. Well, you've brought the infliction upon yourself by writing *me* so interesting a letter.

Wishing you the Season's best compliments,

Believe me to be,

With most cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours

Thos. J. Wise

A draft of Professor White's reply to these letters has been preserved; it well sums up Duke's indebtedness to Mr. Wise:

I quite understand how you feel about our keeping your books together as the Wise Collection. In fact, I hope I should feel the same way, and I rather anticipated your reaction to my suggestion. I should

<sup>2</sup> Professor White recalls that in another Wise letter, possibly lost, the writer of these notes was identified as the notorious De Gibler, a prolific forger of Byron and Shelley manuscripts.

have explained my idea more fully. Like you, I believe that books in a library should in all cases be handled simply with a view to their most effective use. In no case, however, would we want to deface such rare and beautiful volumes with the usual library marks, nor would we wish to risk most of them in the comparative insecurity of the shelves accessible to many irresponsible students. Cheek by jowl in the general stacks with all the dirty unwashed of bookdom, their beautiful distinction would be pretty well smothered. Thus in any event we should wish to keep them separate, for reasons similar to those of the British Museum. Once they are kept separate, it becomes inevitable that they have a collective name, for convenience, if nothing else. We could refrain from naming it officially the Wise Collection, but the library staff first, and then the students, would call it that anyhow. If, in toto, we get so few duplicates from you that in either your judgment or mine it would look odd to call it officially the Wise Collection we will refrain from naming it.

It pleases me though, in spite of your own embarrassment, that students and library staff will call it by your name. There is nothing else in this country (except your catalogues & some prefaces which are rather a different matter), so far as I know, that will keep alive in the minds of young scholars not only the existence of the Ashley Library but the fact that its creator rendered cheerful and valuable assistance to many American scholars. As a scholar and as an American who feels that Anglo-American cooperation is of very great importance I shall be pleased that we have this reminder here at Duke. It hardly matters, from this angle, whether it is as large as it might have been or not. Nor does it matter that you are not giving us the books outright. There was absolutely no reason why you should, and you are, in fact, giving us a great deal, for which we

are very grateful. You have just promised us your future catalogues and a copy of *A Landor Library*, which we shall be delighted to have. We have only two or three of your volumes and are on the lookout for the others, but most of them were beyond our budget until we came into our money from Mr. Duke.

From this time on, with the disruption of Mr. Wise's life by illness and trouble, his letters grew less frequent and more brief; several are in Mrs. Wise's hand or that of a nurse. On the third of May 1933, he wrote of the nearly completed bibliography of Byron:

Here is the Preface, &c. to Vol. II of my "Byron." By doing a little bit each day I have managed to get through the proofs, & before the end of the week the complete volume will be passed for press.

\* \* \* \* \*

If all goes well, vol 2 of Byron will be delivered just when we return or very shortly afterwards. I shall take care that two of the first copies sent off will go to Prof. White & Mr Morell. Please inform the latter of this, & tell him that the next thing I do after getting vol 2 distributed will be to gather together all the Byron duplicates I have been using, plus a number of interesting items I can spare, which will be made better use of in your hands than in mine, & I will instruct Mr Thompson to fetch them away from here & forward them to you.

A month later, 1 June 1933, at Queen's Hotel, Hastings, Mr. Wise dictated to his nurse a letter which again remarks, among other subjects, upon the Byron collection he is planning to send to Duke:

When we return to London towards the end of June, I expect to find Volume ii of "Byron" awaiting me. The first thing I

do, with the promised help of Mr. Buxton Forman, will be to distribute these. You may be sure that among the very first to be sent off, will go to Durham, N. C.

After the dispatch of these has been completed, my next job will be, again with Mr. Forman's aid, to sort out all Byron's duplicates for Messrs Stephen and Brown, to collect and send to you. I am hoping that there will not be very far from a full set.

Two remaining letters of the collection contain passages relating to Duke Library. The first, dated 14 November 1934, is in Mrs. Wise's hand:

I find myself in possession of a duplicate of the First Issue of the First Edition of "The Genuine Rejected Addresses." It is unbound, & the edges are trimmed. I have given it to Riviere to put into a red leather binding uniform with a number of the items included in the small Byron collection you had from me recently. Please ask Mr Morrell to let me know whether he has a copy in the University Library. If not I will gladly send you this one with my warmest regards. On Sep. 26<sup>th</sup> I sent to Mr Morrell by registered post a small collection of letters which Prof. Baum told me I had omitted from the collection of Byron etc although I had promised it to Mr Morrell. It was enclosed in one of Riviere's folding cases. I have never heard of its arrival, & should be very grateful if Mr Morrell will let me know if it arrived safely.

The second, brief and genial, announces the coming of the promised gift:

25, Heath Drive,  
Hampstead, N.W. 3.  
Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> 1934.

Dear Mr. White,

Here is the copy of James & Horace Smith's "*Rejected Addresses*." It is unfortunately a small one; but it is a speci-

men of the First Issue of the First Edition, and is quite sound and good. Will you please accept it from me, and add it to your Byron Collection.

You did not reply to my question as to whether you already had one in the library, and so I take it for granted that it is still lacking there.

With all good greeting for the coming New Year to Mr. Morrell and to yourself, Believe me to be,

Always sincerely yours

Thos. J. Wise.

You see I am trying to write you with my own hand!

To this record of the friendly attentions paid by Mr. Wise to our library, it is appropriate to add a brief account of the books received from him. The Byron collection, several times mentioned in the letters, was entered in the accession books of the library on 12 March 1934. It consisted of sixty-seven

volumes, first and early editions of Byron's poems, a few in the original covers, the majority in the elaborate morocco bindings created for Mr. Wise by Riviere. *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, *Mazeppa*, *Beppo*, *The Corsair*, *The Bride of Abydos*, and many others are well represented, some appearing in two or three variants of the first edition. Beyond these, Mr. Wise sent to the Duke library about fifty volumes, including the rare Coleridge items mentioned in the letters, early editions of a number of Dryden's plays, the 1729 edition of Pope's *Dunciad*, Tennyson's 1843 *Poems*, and the Dublin, 1759, edition of Johnson's *Prince of Abyssinia*. Small wonder that these volumes and their companions aroused enthusiasm among the men who received them at Duke; today the "Wise collection" remains a valued and proudly displayed portion of our library.



## PROGRAMS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

### ROBERT FROST

ON the evening of 27 February 1947, during the third visit of Robert Frost to Duke University, an open meeting of the Friends of Duke University Library was held in Page Auditorium. About twelve hundred members and guests were present. They were welcomed by the University Librarian, Dr. B. E. Powell, who presided over the meeting. Professor William M. Gibson spoke upon the purpose of the Friends of the Library, describing the organization as one devised for the mutual improvement of the library and its patrons. He briefly reviewed a few of the many ways in which assistance may be rendered to the library, and asked that students and faculty members alike give thought to the possibility of serving the institution in these and other ways. Professor Gibson then announced the establishment by the Friends of the Library of two annual awards of twenty-five dollars each, to be presented at the close of each academic year, one to the student in Trinity College or the College of Engineering, the other to the student in the Woman's College, who has submitted the most outstanding collection of books. Students interested in competing in the 1947 contest were asked to register at the library.

The Rev. George B. Ehlhardt then introduced Mr. Frost, saying, in part:

Although Mr. Frost has been called a New England poet, he cannot be bound by regional lines. A native of California, reared in New England, and now a Floridian for a few months of each year, he in his travels illustrates the universal character of his poetry. Because of his simplicity and his wide range of residence, Mr. Frost has friends in all walks of life and in every stratum of society. In

each group he is at home, and I know that we here at Duke University welcome back a friend of long standing who is both near and dear to us.

The Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt then announced his intention of presenting to the Duke Library his own Robert Frost collection; an account of this collection is given on another page of this issue.

Mr. Frost's introductory remarks took their cue from the part of Mr. Ehlhardt's speech that has been quoted. He told his hearers to "be suspicious of words," to examine closely meanings and applications, and not to be led astray by superficial likenesses. The term "regionalist," he said, was an example requiring cautious use. He objected to having that term applied to him, to being classified as a poet of New England alone. He spoke of himself as a "realist," rather, one whose abode and sphere of action is the realm of poetry, in feeling, thought, spirit. Mr. Frost then commented on the "play" of poetry, the toying with images that is almost mischievous. He pointed out that the reader must be ready in bringing his own experience to the aid of the poet and nimble in adjusting his experience to the demands made by poetic imagery.

Mr. Frost began his reading with a number of poems from his new book, *Steeple Bush*, then not yet published; in reading these he remarked that it seemed "an unusual thing to handle proof in public." Many of the pieces were from a section of "Editorials," comments on the events and attitudes of our time. Among these were "I Felt My Standpoint Shaken," "Why Wait For Science," "Etherealizing," and "Haec Fabula Docet." Then "to rest on the familiar," the poet gave



some of his earlier pieces, "The Run-away," "Come In," "Birches," "Stopping By Woods On a Snowy Evening." On reciting "Take Something Like a Star," he remarked, "Them's my politics." He concluded with "Departmental," was recalled several times by enthusiastic applause, and recited, among other pieces, "the poem I was brought here to read": "Happiness Makes Up In Height For What It Lacks In Length."

The meeting came to an end with a brief speech by Dr. Powell in which he expressed to Mr. Frost the appreciation of the audience and thanked the Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt for his generous gift to the library.

#### CHAUNCEY B. TINKER

CHAUNCEY Brewster Tinker of Yale University, Sterling Professor of English Literature, Emeritus, and Keeper of Rare Books in the University Library, was guest speaker at a meeting of the Friends of the Library on the evening of 19 March, in the Music Room of East Duke Building. Professor Newman I. White introduced Professor Tinker, describing his distinguished career as scholar, teacher, and bibliophile.

Professor Tinker's lecture, entitled "In Praise of the Classroom," was a sensitive analysis of the function of the teacher. Touching upon the drudgery and the disappointments involved in the work of teaching, he yet showed how teacher as well as pupil profits by the daily labor. He quoted from *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* the passage in which Byron bids farewell to Horace and affirms that his early studies—"The drill'd dull lesson, forced down word by word"—have made him insensitive to the beauties of the

Roman poet. Yet Byron goes on, Professor Tinker pointed out, to show how thoroughly he did appreciate Horace:

Although no deeper Moralist rehearse  
Our little life, nor Bard prescribe his art,  
Nor livelier Satirist the conscience pierce,  
Awakening without wounding the touch'd  
heart. . . .

Thus even from forced application to study the pupil sometimes profits more than he knows. The teacher, too, covering year by year the same ground, stumbles every year upon answers to old questions and upon new problems as well, sharpening his perception and growing more and more sensitive to the author's intentions. Many an author—Dante was the example chosen—penetrates spheres of thought and feeling into which the reader may follow only by virtue of strenuous and continued effort; to the teacher it is given to make this effort and achieve understanding, then to help the steps of others along the same path. As a taste of the highest triumph that a teacher may know, Professor Tinker quoted at length from the tribute paid by John Keats to his friend Charles Cowden Clarke:

That you first taught me all the sweets  
of song:  
The grand, the sweet, the terse, the free,  
the fine;  
What swell'd with pathos, and what right  
divine:

\* \* \* \* \*

Ah! had I never seen  
Or known your kindness, what might I  
have been?  
What my enjoyments in my youthful  
years,  
Bereft of all that now my life endears?  
And can I e'er these benefits forget?  
And can I e'er repay the friendly debt?  
No, doubly no. . . .

## GIFTS

**A**PPROXIMATELY two thousand volumes have been presented to the library within the past six months. In the field of literature, generous gifts have been received from Professor and Mrs. Clarence Gohdes, Mrs. I. L. Sears, and Professor and Mrs. Clement Vollmer. Mr. James T. Gittman of Columbia, South Carolina, has made several additions to the Henry Bellamann Dante collection; Professor and Mrs. A. T. West have contributed a number of modern plays; Professor Frances Brown has given two sets of Japanese fairy tales, and Mr. George Colt of Asheville a portrait of Washington Irving. From Professor and Mrs. Lewis Patton have come two valued additions to the Coleridge collection and also a fine association item: Thomas Gray's signed and annotated copy of Dugdale's *A Short View of the Late Troubles in England* (London, 1681).

In history and the social sciences notable gifts have come from Professor and Mrs. R. H. Woody, Professor and Mrs. Joseph C. Robert, Professor Bayrd Still, Dean Alice Baldwin, Mrs. W. H. Glasson, Professor and Mrs. Charles S. Sydnor, and Professor and Mrs. Allan H. Gilbert. Responses to the recent desiderata list of American travel books have come from Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schuman, Professor and Mrs. Neal Dow, and Mr. David Wagstaff. Mr. Wagstaff's gift was the first edition of a classic of American travel: the Duc de La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt's *Voyage dans les États-Unis d'Amérique, fait en 1795, 1796 et 1797* (Paris, L'an VII de la République). Mrs. J. A. Thomas has added a number of vol-

umes to the Thomas collection of Orientalia.

In the field of law outstanding contributions have been made by Professor H. C. Horack and Mr. Robert P. Stewart; in science, by Professor and Mrs. Marcus Hobbs; in religion, by Mrs. A. H. Worth and Mr. Webb B. Garrison. Mr. Garrison, of Timmonsville, South Carolina, has also made generous monetary donations to the library, as have Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Spears, Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Dalton, and Dean and Mrs. W. H. Wannamaker.

### CLASSICAL LITERATURE

**T**HE University Library has recently received as a gift from Professor C. W. Peppler a considerable number of Greek books. These books, which formed a part of Professor Peppler's private library, are a very fortunate acquisition at this time. None of the material was already contained in the University Library. Many of the items included are rare and at present can be obtained only with the greatest difficulty. Especially worthy of mention are the following: Lefebvre's *editio princeps* of large parts of four plays of the Greek comic poet Menander, 1200 lines in all, discovered in Egypt in July, 1905; Hunt's edition of extensive papyrus fragments of Greek tragedy found at Oxyrhynchus; Karl Meister, *Die homerische Kunstsprache*; essays by Henri Weil and by Theodore Reinach on the ancient Greek musical score of the Hymn to Apollo found inscribed on the walls of one of the so-called Treasuries at Delphi; Hermann Schöne, *Repertorium*

*griechischer Wörterverzeichnisse und Speciallexica*; Hill's *Sources of Greek History between the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars*; the rare first edition of Spengel's *Rhetores Graeci*, vols. I-III; Anton Springer's *Die Kunst des Altertums*; Whitney's *Sanskrit Grammar*.

J. L. ROSE.

### THE ROBERT FROST COLLECTION

IN presenting his Robert Frost collection to Duke University Library on the evening of 27 February, the Rev. George B. Ehlhardt, addressing his words to Mr. Frost remarked:

Part of the service of any great university is to provide a secure repository for the literary treasures which constitute our national heritage. Your works are among the most significant in American literature, and in order that our students of today and tomorrow may enjoy the privilege of reading your works from volumes which have known your hand, and thus may share the true philosophy of life present in your writings, I am presenting to Duke University my Robert Frost collection of books and materials, and I ask your permission to include those items which you have given to me through the years.

Mr. Ehlhardt's gift, thus announced, was installed in the Rare Book Room of the library on the day after its formal presentation, when Mr. Frost kindly autographed a number of pieces for

inclusion in the collection. Made up of first and limited editions of the volumes of poetry published by Mr. Frost, together with anthologies containing his poems, and numerous pamphlets and other ephemeral pieces, many now very rare, the collection is a truly notable one and a valuable acquisition for the library. A more extensive account of these treasures, with descriptions of the many association copies, is now in preparation and will appear in a future issue of *Library Notes*.

Mr. Ehlhardt has made several additions to the Frost collection within recent months and has expressed the purpose of seeing it brought as near to completeness as may be. During the same period he has also made numerous other gifts to the library in the fields of literature, history, the social sciences, and religion. Among these, two volumes are particularly worthy of mention: the rare second edition of *XCVI Sermons by the Right Honorable and Reverend Father in God, Lancelot Andrewes, Late Bishop of Winchester* (London, 1631) and *Certain Sermons or Homilies Appointed to be Read in Churches in the Time of Queen Elizabeth* (London, 1757). We have had frequent occasions in the past to mention Mr. Ehlhardt's generosity to the library; not only by his many donations of books, but also by his able services, he has proved himself a true friend of the library.



## DESIDERATA

The list of American travel books which appeared in the desiderata section of the last issue of *Library Notes* consisted for the most part of items difficult to secure and rarely to be found in private libraries. In this issue we are listing a selection of books more readily available—the productions of a group of modern British authors. These volumes are not now in the library. It is hoped that some friends may be able to supply us with a few of the titles mentioned; others may wish to “adopt” one of these authors on the library’s behalf.

W. H. AUDEN

*Some poems.* 1940.

*Spain.* 1937.

G. K. CHESTERTON

*All is grist.* 1931.

*All things considered.* 1908.

*The ballad of St. Barbara and other verses.* 1923.

*Biography for beginners.* 1908.

*Book of Job.* 1907.

*Chaucer.* 1932.

*The club of queer trades.* 1905.

*Come to think of it.* 1930.

*A defense of nonsense and other essays.* 1911.

*The end of the Roman road: a pageant of wayfarers.* 1924.

*Essays.* 1939.

*Five types.* 1911.

*Generally speaking.* 1929.

*The grave of Arthur.* 1930.

*Graybeards at play.* 1900.

*Irish impressions.* 1919.

*Lord Kitchener.* 1917.

*The new Jerusalem.* 1920.

*The outline of sanity.* 1926.

*Poems.* 1915.

*The return of Don Quixote.* 1926.

*Sidelights on new London and Newer*

*York, and other essays.* 1932.

*Simplicity and Tolstoy.* 1912.

*Tales of the long bow.* 1925.

*Thomas Carlyle.* 1902.

*Utopia of usurers.* 1917.

*William Blake.* 1910.

CYRIL CONNOLLY

*Enemies of promise.* 1938.

*The rock pool.* 1936.

*The unquiet grave.* 1945.

C. DAY LEWIS

*Beechen vigil, and other poems.* 1925.

*Child of misfortune.* 1939.

*Country comets.* 1928.

*The friendly tree.* 1937.

*From feathers to iron.* 1932.

*The magnetic mountain.* 1933.

*Overtures to death and other poems.* 1938.

*Poems.* 1943.

*Poems in wartime.* 1940.

*The romantic disaster.* 1937.

*The starting point.* 1937.

*Transitional poem.* 1929.

*Word over all.* 1943.

E. M. FORSTER

*England's pleasant land: a pageant play.* 1940.

*Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson.* 1934.

*A letter to Madam Blanchard.* 1931.

*Nordic twilight.* 1940.

*The story of the siren.* 1920.

*What I believe.* 1939.

ALDOUS HUXLEY

*Along the road: notes and essays of a tourist.* 1925.

*The burning wheel.* 1916.

*The defeat of youth, and other poems.* 1918.

*Do what you will.* 1929.

*An encyclopaedia of pacifism.* 1937.

*Holy face, and other essays.* 1929.

*Jonah.* 1917.



- Mortal coils.* 1922.  
*Proper studies.* 1927.  
*Rotunda.* 1932.  
*Selected poems.* 1925.  
*T. H. Huxley as a man of letters.* 1932.  
*Vulgarity in literature: digressions from a theme.* 1930.  
*What are you going to do about it? The case of constructive peace.* 1936.

## D. H. LAWRENCE

- Bay, a book of poems.* 1919.  
*Christ in the Tyrol.* 1933.  
*Glad ghosts.* 1926.  
*Last poems.* 1933.  
*Tortoises.* 1921.  
*Touch and go.* 1920.

## ARTHUR MACHEN

- The bowmen, and other legends of the war.* 1915.  
*The chronicle of Clemendy.* 1888.  
*Dog and duck.* 1924.  
*Far off things.* 1922.  
*The great god Pan, and The inmost light.* 1894.  
*The great return.* 1915.  
*The London adventure.* 1924.  
*Strange roads.* 1923.  
*The terror.* 1917.  
*Things near and far.* 1923.  
*The three impostors.* 1895.

## GEORGE WILLIAM RUSSELL: A. E.

- The avatars, a futurist fantasy.* 1933.  
*The building up of a rural civilization.* 1910.  
*By still waters.* 1906.  
*Co-operation and nationality; a guide for rural reformers from this to the next generation.* 1912.  
*Deirdre.* 1907.  
*The divine vision, and other poems.* 1903.  
*The earth breath and other poems.* 1897.  
*Figgis (D).* 1915.  
*Gods of war and other poems.* 1915.  
*The hero in man.* 1909.  
*Homeward: songs by the way.* 1895.  
*The house of the Titans, and other poems.* 1934.  
*The inner and the outer Ireland.* 1921.  
*The mask of Apollo and other stories.* 1904.  
*The renewal of youth.* 1911.  
*Some Irish essays.* 1906.  
*Some passages from the letters of A. E. to W. B. Yeats.* 1936.

## STEPHEN SPENDER

- The backward son.* 1940.  
*The burning cactus.* 1936.  
*Life and the poet.* 1942.  
*Nine entertainments.* 1928.  
*Twenty poems.* 1930.

## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

IN the course of the spring the organization of student collectors, first proposed in Number 16 of *Library Notes*, has come into existence under the able direction of the Friends of the Library Undergraduate Committee. The members of the committee—Professors Frances Brown, Louise Hall, Lewis Leary, and William Blackburn—have assembled a group of interested students, who have held two meetings in the Rare Book Room of the University Library. At the first, on 19 March, Professor Chauncey B. Tinker addressed the students. Speaking with delightful informality, he warned them of some of the pitfalls which wait for the inexperienced collector, remarking, "Learn that you must make mistakes." He adjured them never to buy an incomplete book: all the parts—the half-title, the advertisements of a certain date, the cancel-leaf—must be present; "all is evidence." He told them to learn the discipline of saying "no"; he assured them that they would certainly be scoffed at for their absorption in rare books: "No one will understand." And, with a few amusing anecdotes to illustrate his point, he remarked that the story of acquiring rare books is for the most part a dull one and that the great bargains are infrequent: "The rule is that the book in the ten-cent barrow belongs there." Through all these warnings Professor Tinker's own devotion to his subject shone clearly. Only a collector of wide experience and great enthusiasm could

have spoken thus of the "pains" of collecting, in such a way as to illustrate its very great pleasures.

The second meeting of the student collectors was held on 6 May; the guest speaker was Dr. Josiah C. Trent. Dr. Trent brought to the meeting several superb pieces from his collection of books and manuscripts on the history of medicine. Displaying these one by one he told his hearers how his interest in collecting grew with the acquisition of each, how each led him into new fields of thought and study. The small brown volume in which William Beaumont first published his epoch-making experiments in the physiology of digestion, the handsome quarto which gave to medicine the marvellous anatomical researches of Vesalius, the stately first edition of Samuel Pepys' diary with its record of early experiments in blood transfusion, these were among the treasures with which Dr. Trent illustrated his interesting talk.

### AWARDS TO STUDENTS

TEN undergraduates entered the competition this year for the awards offered by the Friends of the Library to student collectors. The candidates were Miss Mary R. Robinson, '49, Mr. Jesse H. Proctor, Jr., '48, Mr. Guy Davenport, Jr., '49, Mr. William S. Lamparter, '47, Mr. Ward S. Mason, '49, Mr. Jesse H. Proctor, Jr., '48, Mr. Clifford L. Sayre, Jr., '47, Mr. Roger L. Smith, '47, Mr. Richard W. Van Fossen, '49, and Mr. Cullen C. Zimmerman, '49. The collections submitted

by these students were on display in the University Library for several weeks during the month of May. They were of considerable interest and variety, ranging in subject matter from general literature and history to more restricted fields: Mr. Sayre had confined himself to naval literature; Mr. Van Fossen had emphasized Sherlockiana; Mr. Smith was interested in miniature and souvenir sheets and the literature of that subject.

On 13 May, the judges of the contest—Professor Louis R. Wilson of the University of North Carolina, Professor Mary Poteat and the Rev. George B. Ehlhardt of Duke University—met to examine the collections and to interview the candidates. The purpose of these personal interviews was to ascertain the student's object in collecting his library and the extent of his acquaintance with his books, two of the principal criteria upon which the judges based their decision.

The winners of the contest were Miss Mary R. Robinson, whose collection was of a general nature, with emphasis on books used in her work with student groups, and Mr. Ward S. Mason, who submitted an excellent collection developed in the course of his studies in sociology, economics, political science, and philosophy. Honorable mention was accorded to Mr. Clifford L. Sayre for his collection on naval science.

## LIBRARY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

THE Cooperative Committee on Library Buildings Plans met on the campus of Duke University on 18 March; Dr. Julian P. Boyd of Princeton University presided over the meeting, in which librarians and architects representing seventeen universities participated. The afternoon session was devoted to consideration of plans for an addition to the Duke University Library building; the committee made a number of valuable recommendations for the revising of the plans. Both a full report of the committee's proceedings and a brief summary of its recommendations have been prepared and distributed by the University Librarian.

In discussing the Duke plans, the members of the committee were unanimous in emphasizing the importance of planning at once for future expansion as well as for that now necessary. All additions should be designed to conform with these larger plans and to preserve the adaptability and flexibility of the building. The location of activities throughout the building should be so adjusted as to make the areas most heavily used most accessible to the main entrance, and the problem of traffic flow should be carefully studied. Generous provision should be made for the needs of research students, with the addition of seminar rooms, studies, and typing and consultation rooms.





# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 19

February 1948

## ON *LIBRARY NOTES*

WITH the publication of Number 15 of *Library Notes* in December, 1945, the magazine was enlarged in size and somewhat altered in appearance. At the same time all members of the Friends of the Library were invited to contribute articles relating to the library's resources in their fields of study. Subsequent issues have seen a gratifying response to this invitation. Professors Lewis Patton, Kenneth W. Clark, and Allan H. Gilbert, and Miss Noma Lee Goodwin have made interesting and valuable contributions, while Professor Newman I. White enriched not only *Library Notes* but also the library itself by his gift of Thomas James Wise letters, which were partly published in our issue of July, 1947.

In the present number of the *Notes* we are no less fortunate. Professor Lewis Leary's article, which was read before the Folio Club on 2 October 1947, will be of interest to the general reader as well as to students of American history and literature. Around the framework offered by four letters preserved in the library's manuscript collection, Professor Leary has constructed a narrative of political and romantic agitation. The central figure is the famous and pathetic John Howard Payne, who is shown both in conflict with the Georgia government and in love with a Georgia girl.

Professor Lewis Patton's contribution, the second in a series of articles on the marginalia preserved in the library's Coleridge Collection, records and interprets the annotations made by Coleridge in a copy of *The Spirit of Discovery* by William Lisle Bowles. Of Coleridge's marginalia a nineteenth-century reviewer once wrote:

It will be a sad loss to literature if a complete collection of Coleridge's marginal notes is not made before the work becomes impossible by the ever-increasing dispersion of the books in which they occur. These notes, as far as we are acquainted with them, are among the most interesting and valuable of Coleridge's productions.

Many of the volumes containing Coleridge's manuscript notes were widely dispersed even before this suggestion was made; such articles as Professor Patton's are valuable contributions toward the eventual realization of the project suggested.

We are grateful to Professors Leary and Patton, not only for their articles, but also for their example, which we hope to see followed by other members of the Friends. The resources of the Duke Library are sufficiently extensive to furnish material for scores of equally entertaining and informative essays.

# JOHN HOWARD PAYNE'S SOUTHERN ADVENTURE: 1835

*Four Letters in the Duke University Library*

LEWIS LEARY

IT was pretty much his own fault, said the *Southern Banner* of Athens, Georgia, that John Howard Payne, a "gentleman well known to the literary world," but nonetheless a Whig, a Yankee, and an Abolitionist, was arrested and held for some two weeks in custody by the Georgia Guard, under suspicion of stirring up the Cherokee against the citizens of the South: "He got himself into the difficulty under a full knowledge of all the circumstances . . . and of the strong prejudices existing among the people against strangers from the North."<sup>1</sup> The incident became the talk of Georgia, discussed heatedly in the newspapers, brought officially to the attention of both the State Senate and the House of Representatives. It resulted in a special investigation ordered by Governor William Schley, brought a note of strong protest from the Governor of Tennessee, was called to the personal attention of Secretary of War Lewis Cass, and finally, several years later, was introduced into the business of the 25th Congress at Washington. Ordered peremptorily from the state, the playwright left furtively, avoiding main-travelled roads. Thus he may be remembered not only as the celebrated author of "Home, Sweet Home," but as one of the first articulate Northern fugitives from Georgia justice.

Payne was forty-four years old. He

<sup>1</sup> December 31, 1835; see also November 26 and December 17, 1835.

had returned three years before from a residence of something more than two decades in Europe, where he had been known, first, as the marvelous boy-actor, the "American Roscius," and then, when he had put on rather too much weight for juvenile parts, as a workaday playwright who, in 1823, scored popular success with the theme song of his musical drama, *Clari; or, The Maid of Milan*. For several years, however, things had not been going well for the American abroad. Never greatly creative, he turned more and more to translations and adaptations of foreign plays, which, even with some help from Washington Irving, were too seldom successful. There had been more than one flight from creditors, at least one arrest for debt. He had for several years edited, with distinction but little financial gain, a theatrical review in London called *The Opera Glass*. He had spent some time as a fugitive in Paris, where he is said to have sued in vain for the hand of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley.<sup>2</sup>

Back in America in 1832, with more reputation than cash, Payne looked about for something to do. He wrote an occasional review for the *New-York Mirror*. His friends arranged special "benefit" performances for him in the

<sup>2</sup> See Willis T. Hanson, Jr., *The Early Life of John Howard Payne*, Boston, 1913, *passim*; William Dunlap, *History of the American Theatre*, New York, 1832, pp. 351-352; and Stanley T. Williams, *The Life of Washington Irving*, New York, 1935, I, 267-272, 286-288.

theaters of New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. He considered preparing an elaborate "Life of Our Saviour," compiled from the four Gospels. At length he hit upon a plan for an "international" periodical, to be published in London (with himself as editor), but with contributors and subscribers from both England and America. It was projected as a patriotic enterprise, which "would supply the mind of Europe opportunities for appreciating that of America," which would create a "means for paying American talent with a liberality which no support yet obtained for any work in this country has thus far been able to afford," and which would, finally, be prepared to uphold America "against all Europe, should she, in Europe, be defamed." He planned to call it *Jam Jehan Nima*, which, he explained, translated from the Persian meant "the goblet wherein you may behold the universe."<sup>3</sup>

During the summer of 1834 Payne sought—"fruitlessly," he admitted—to obtain subscribers for his periodical in New England. Then, later in the year, he set out on a tour of the western and southern states, visiting Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, and Mississippi for the same purpose.<sup>4</sup> Late in February, 1835, he arrived in New Orleans with some thousand subscriptions in his pocket and his notebooks filled with observations of American men and manners. After about six weeks, having meanwhile entered into newspaper controversy as to whether he or the actor Ty-

rone Power had contributed more to American literature, and having been recipient of a grand theatrical benefit at the Camp Street Theatre, which brought him something more than one thousand dollars, Payne set out through Alabama toward Georgia.

His attention may have been directed toward the American Indian by the exhibit of "aboriginal portraits" which George Catlin—the painter who "surprises and delights us with his pencil as Cooper has formerly done with his pen"—had on display in New Orleans.<sup>5</sup> But it was apparently while travelling through the Creek territory in Alabama that Payne really became drawn to the subject. Arriving at Macon, Georgia, on August 8, knowing no one and having nothing to do, he spent some part of the next day on a long letter to his sister, brushing up, he said, "my recollection of some of my adventures . . . among the Indians." He found them an "ill-starred race," set upon by speculators, and "among these the everlasting Yankee," and "entirely at the mercy of interpreters who, if not negro slaves of their own, are half breeds . . . generally worse than the worst of either slaves or knaves." He wrote at length of the Green Corn Dance which he had witnessed some days before. It was to him "a melancholy reflection . . . that these strange people were rapidly becoming extinct" and "without a proper investigation of their hidden past, which would perhaps unfold to man the most remarkable of all human histories."<sup>6</sup>

At Macon, Payne is said to have pur-

<sup>3</sup> Gabriel Harrison, *John Howard Payne, Dramatist, Poet, Actor, and Author of Home, Sweet Home! His Life and Writings*, Philadelphia, 1885, pp. 140-163.

<sup>4</sup> *Knoxville Register*, December 2, 1836; reprinted in George M. Battey, Jr., *A History of Rome and Floyd County*, Atlanta, 1922, p. 55.

<sup>5</sup> *The Bee*, February 23, March 23, and April 3, 1835.

<sup>6</sup> See John Howard Payne, "The Green Corn Dance," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, X (June, 1932), 170-195; see also Harrison, *op. cit.*, p. 167.



chased a horse and travelled toward Augusta, where he was thought to have arranged with Augustus B. Longstreet, then editor of the *States' Rights Sentinel*, for the printing of articles which Payne would produce during his travels. "Induced," he explained, "by the descriptions I had heard of the beauty of its mountain region to turn somewhat aside from my road in order to seek the upper parts of the State,"<sup>7</sup> Payne travelled northward to Athens, where he was entertained by General Edward Harden, whose young son and eighteen-year-old daughter Mary seem to have been just as impressed as we would expect them to be by association with the cosmopolitan author of "Home, Sweet Home." In the course of his wanderings, which took him to Toccoa Falls in Stephens County, Amicalola Falls in Dawson County, Tallulah Falls and Yonah Mountain in White County, to the gold fields of Dahlonega in Lumpkin County, and the Salt Peter Cave near Kingston, Payne met Dr. William A. Tennille, a brother of the Georgia Secretary of State, who talked to him further of Indians, reinforced his feeling that investigation into their history would be of "extreme interest and curiosity," and suggested that such an undertaking would be especially appropriate for such a publication as Payne's projected "international" magazine.

"The more I heard," said Payne, "the more I became excited." He obtained letters of introduction to John Ross, the half-Scotch Principal Chief of the Cherokee, long a thorn in the side of government agents who attempted to conclude a treaty which would remove the Indians from their eastern territories to

reservations west of the Mississippi. On September 28th, in search, he insisted, of historical materials, Payne rode into Tennessee, where Ross, whose home in Georgia had been confiscated by public lottery, now resided.<sup>8</sup>

From this point on, the testimony as to exactly what happened becomes confused.<sup>9</sup> Payne, who had at first intended to remain only one day, then a few days, stayed on with John Ross at Blue Springs for more than a month, copying documents and becoming, by all accounts, more and more convinced that the Indians were victimized by the white man. "In addition to the literature and anecdotes of the nation I involuntarily became well acquainted with its politics." It seemed to him that agents and commissioners of the United States had often exceeded their authority, had certainly treated the Indians unfairly. Admitting himself no politician, but only a philanthropist, he "fancied some good might be done by a series of papers on the subject." He wrote one, in which, among other

<sup>8</sup> *Knoxville Register*, December 2, 1835. According to Battey (*op. cit.*, p. 54), he set off for the Indian country in company with Governor Wilson Lumpkin, General Harden, and Colonel Samuel Rockwell, in the general's two-horse wagon; according to Payne's own account, he was on horseback, equipped complete with saddle-bags and a cherished buffalo robe.

<sup>9</sup> The account as herein given is based on Payne's own discussion of his arrest in the *Knoxville Register*, December 2, 1835, and on the testimony of U. S. Commissioner, the Rev. John L. Schermerhorn, U. S. Indian Agent, John F. Currey, and of various other witnesses, as contained in *U. S. Senate Documents*, No. 120 (25th Congress, 2d Session), pp. 490-571. See also Grant Foreman, *Indian Removal. The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians*, Norman, 1932, pp. 266-268; James Mooney, "Myths of the Cherokees," in *Nineteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1897-98, Washington, 1900, pp. 122-123; and Grant Foreman, "John Howard Payne and the Cherokee Indians," *American Historical Review*, XXXVII (July, 1932), 723-750.

<sup>7</sup> *Knoxville Register*, December 2, 1835.

things, he charged that government agents had offered John Ross a bribe of \$50,000 if he would influence the Indians to meet their demands, and in which he had the ill grace to characterize the Georgia Guard, a military band organized by Governor Lumpkin to keep peace on the state border, as a group of "banditti." He did not publish the article, but—unfortunately, as it turned out, for him—kept it among his other papers.<sup>10</sup>

When, on October 12, Payne went with Ross to the meeting between the Cherokee and officials of the United States at Red Clay, Tennessee, he was outspoken in his opposition to governmental measures in private conversation, and—though it now seems unlikely that he could wield such power,—he was later held in some large share responsible for the failure of the commissioners to come to terms with the Indians at that time. The fact that U. S. Commissioner, the Rev. John L. Schermerhorn, of Utica, New York, had been a college-mate years before at Union College in Schenectady, may have made Payne bold in speaking his mind. At best, he was sincere and forthright, zealous with the zeal of a new convert, and certainly indiscreet.

Contemporary charges against him, however, were serious and explicit. He was from New York, and abolitionist tracts from New York had recently been appearing throughout the district—who else, said his accusers, would know the local addresses to which the pamphlets could be sent? He was from England, and was said to have allowed the Indians to believe that he was an emissary from their former and

more benign white fathers abroad. It was even hinted—and the hint enlarged when Payne admitted speaking French—that he was an envoy from France, sent to stir up the Indians in concert with a new Franco-American war. It was whispered that he had conspired with Ross in New York the previous spring (when Payne was in New Orleans) to arrive as an *agent provocateur* among the Cherokee. He was a spy who took down every word the commissioners said. He was often seen in "secret conclave" with Ross, and with one Samuel McConnell, who everyone knew represented the Whig, anti-administration forces in Tennessee. He was supposed to be the author (though he probably was not) of a "scurrilous and inflammatory" pro-Indian letter in Longstreet's Augusta newspaper. Certainly, he was an irritant, and charges grew as people muttered against him.

Ridiculous as the accusations may seem in view of the few facts which can be ascertained, they certainly were believed by many people in Georgia—and many more among the Indians rejoiced to believe them true. When Benjamin Currey, the Indian Agent, who was particularly attacked by Payne, found it necessary to explain himself to the War Department and the Congress, he had no trouble rounding up a score of men to testify to one or another of the charges. As we re-examine the evidence today, it may seem that Payne's principal crime was that of talking—and he a Yankee!—too readily about a subject on which he was not completely informed. But to ruggedly pragmatic Indian Agent Currey the situation was far more serious. He suggested to Sergeant Wilson Young,

<sup>10</sup> This article appears in *U. S. Senate Documents*, No. 120, pp. 573-579.



then acting commander of the Georgia Guard, that it might be well to examine Payne's papers.<sup>11</sup>

After the deed was done, Currey insisted that he certainly had never meant for Sergeant Young to lead a force of Georgia men into Tennessee territory to make an arrest. But that is what he did. On Saturday evening, November 7, at about eleven, Payne (in the midst, he said, of copying a talk held by George Washington in 1794 with a delegation of Cherokee chiefs) was disturbed by the barking of dogs, the quick tramp of galloping horses, and angry calls outside the house. The door was burst open: "The room was filled with Georgia Guards, their bayonets fixed." Payne was seized, and his papers. When he remonstrated, Young slapped him across the mouth with his pistol: "Hold your damned tongue!" He and Ross were taken on horseback, through a driving rainstorm, twenty-four miles to Spring Place, Georgia, where for almost two weeks they were held captive "in a small log hut with no window and one door." Only after great and ingenious efforts did Payne manage to smuggle a note out to his friends, to substantiate the word of his arrest which the Cherokee had brought to the Governor of Georgia. At length, after adventures which he detailed at tedious length,<sup>12</sup> the playwright was re-

<sup>11</sup> Testimony of Joshua Holden, who, as a member of the Georgia Guard, may, however, have been anxious to turn responsibility for the arrest away from Young toward Currey; see *U. S. Senate Documents*, No. 120, pp. 570-571.

<sup>12</sup> Payne's account of the capture takes up ten columns in the *Knoxville Register*; if, said the *Georgia Telegraph* of Macon, on December 24, 1835, "Mr. Payne succeeds in making his intended 'literary periodical' as uninteresting as he has this account of his capture, it will certainly be a remarkable work!"

leased, mortified that he was compelled to parade before the assembled Guard—who did not forget that he had called them "banditti"—astride a loosely girthed horse, with his saddle-bags and belongings piled helter-skelter about him, while its commander, Colonel William H. Bishop, ordered him drummed from the camp: "If you ever dare agin show your face within the limits of Georgia, I'll make you curse the moment with your last breath."

Payne made his way as best he could to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he was welcomed by the anti-administration faction there. The affair had caused a furor:<sup>13</sup> Payne's brother in New York had written for an explanation from the Secretary of War; the Georgia House of Representatives called on newly elected Governor William Schley for a full and complete investigation; the papers of Georgia and Tennessee were full of it for weeks; Governor Newton Cannon of Tennessee wrote sternly of the violation of states' rights and called on the Governor of Georgia for an explanation. Even those who suspected that Payne had been up to no good censured the Guard for having exceeded its authority. Citizens in Knoxville held a public meeting to pass resolutions against his arrest, as "a wanton and arbitrary and lawless outrage upon the sacred rights of an American citizen." A committee from the Georgia House of Representatives presented resolutions that the "character and reputation of the state of Georgia" had been jeopardized by "this act of wanton and uncalled for

<sup>13</sup> See *U. S. Senate Documents*, No. 120, pp. 488-489; *Journal of the House of Representatives of the State of Georgia*, Milledgeville, 1836, pp. 205, 248, 326-327, 430-444; 1837, pp. 18-19; *Niles' Weekly Register*, XLIX (January, 1836), 307, 343.



vandalism": "Resolved, That the legislature highly disapprove of the conduct of the Georgia Guard in the recent arrest and confinement of John Howard Payne." Governor Schley wrote a conciliatory reply to the Governor of Tennessee. But Indian Agent Benjamin Currey would not admit that a wrong had been done. He insisted on Payne's guilt in a letter widely printed by newspapers throughout Georgia, insinuating that the playwright had misrepresented facts: "had I been aware of the extent of the gentleman's offense and had been there before his release, his confinement would have continued at least until orders, as to the proper course to be pursued, could have been received from the War Department."<sup>14</sup>

A committee of citizens of Knoxville, "consisting of sixteen of the most respectable names of the town," met to arrange a public dinner in Payne's honor. But he preferred to hurry on toward New York, by way of Charleston, where he was most cordially received:

High indignation filled our breasts,

Before we saw JOHN HOWARD PAYNE,  
That Georgia Guards, against his will,  
The gifted stranger should detain;

But since within our city bounds,

We have enjoyed a nearer view,

We Charleston folks, by gentler force,

Would gladly make him prisoner too.<sup>15</sup>

Meanwhile, however, Payne wrote to General Edward Harden, with whose family he had apparently maintained friendly correspondence:<sup>16</sup>

<sup>14</sup> *The Southern Banner*, December 17, 1835.

<sup>15</sup> *New York Mirror* (XIII, January 23, 1836, 239) identifies these lines as "a *jeu d'esprit* republished from Charleston (S. C.), and written, it is said, by a distinguished lady there."

<sup>16</sup> The Harden family long cherished a beaded Indian purse, Indian moccasins, and a shark's tooth

Knoxville Tenn<sup>ee</sup> Dec 5, 1835.

My dear sir,

You have, no doubt, ere this heard of my adventures. I sent you the statement by last post. Have you ever known of a more impudent enormity?— There has been a public meeting here, spirited and dignified— The proceedings will, I hope, be printed at Athens. The example ought to be followed throughout the Union— In Georgia, especially,—for these measures offer the only opportunity she has of casting the blame upon the delinquents who deserve it.

I have no time to write now, but could not allow myself to depart on my way homeward without a Word of remembrance— It will, perhaps, be as well for me not to make my line of march generally known—but I must go to Hamburg, because my trunks are all in Augusta— Georgia I never enter again without a formal public invitation—so I will go to the border & look in— It would give me sincere pleasure to find a line from you at the Augusta post office— Mr Ross & many of the delegation are here— They have rec<sup>d</sup> a formal protest against the mission from Currey but of this they take no heed— My way must be made mostly alone & on horseback— I should not wonder if these scoundrels make my journey a longer one than I have calculated upon— But no matter— If the worst happens, I shall not be the first who has not lived out his time in a *free country*, and unless the nation awakens, I shall not be the last.

Pray offer my best remembrance to M<sup>rs</sup>

presented by Payne to Mary Harden. The tradition that General Harden defended Payne as a lawyer (see Elinor Hillyer, "When Payne Courtied Athens Girl," *Atlanta Journal*, March 17, 1929, p. 4, and Annie Hornady Howard and Floraine Harden-Smith, "The Romance of Home Sweet Home," *Holland's Magazine*, XLII, October, 1929, 18-19), based on a notation in the MS "Ed. Harden. Diary and Accounts, 1834-1849" (Flowers Collection, Duke University Library) that Harden did "Plead case of *Paine* for Terrell" in Gainesville on April 14, 1834, is manifestly untrue; for in April, 1834, Payne had not yet begun his southern travels.

Harden, your daughter & son—. to Col: Hamilton & his family—to Judge Clayton—in short, to all who remember,

Yours most truly

John Howard Payne.<sup>17</sup>

General Harden answered the letter immediately, but it was some time before Payne, now safe and busy in New York, supplied the next link in the correspondence:

New York, March 22. 1836.

My dear Sir,

How am I to obtain forgiveness for my seeming neglect of your kind letter of December 18.?— I can only hope that your unwavering friendship will lead you to believe me when I assure you that the neglect has only been a seeming one, and has arisen entirely from my expectation of having something more satisfactory to communicate than merely my thanks and excuses. But of that I now despair and must be satisfied to make you a little more angry at the letter I do send than you might have been at my not sending any.

The Indian affair remains where it was. I had a letter from Mr Ross the other day, stating that the old party and the old plans had produced a quack treaty<sup>18</sup> which was presented in opposition to the real & the national one, and the chosen delegation had been told if they would not sign what the faction offered they should not be allowed to sign any other. Protests from the two halves of the nation have been sent to Washington—the one bearing 3500 signatures, the other 13,000. These will come before the Senate when the false treaty is offered. No doubt the Seminole outbreak<sup>19</sup> will be urged to promote the

<sup>17</sup> This letter and the two which follow are among the Harden Papers, Flowers Collection, Duke University Library.

<sup>18</sup> A treaty which provided for removal of the Cherokee from their eastern lands was drawn up and signed on December 28, 1835, at New Echota; see Foreman, *Indian Removal*, p. 286.

<sup>19</sup> Contemporary newspapers were full of accounts of the Seminole rebellion under Osceola, which so

Cherokee ruin, and the most virtuous nation in the world hear no more of the affair till it is announced in thunder at the great Judgement Seat of Eternal Retribution, where nations, like individuals, must answer for their deeds. I hope you will escape what I was made to suffer. The upper part of Georgia has much to atone for already and seems to be in a condition which cannot fail to bring on her yet much more. I trust, however, you will profit by my experience. With an interesting family depending on your safety, and whose happiness is so much involved in your security, it would be unjust to expose yourself to certain danger for hopeless objects.

I have not been to Washington. Perhaps I may go thither when the travelling becomes endureable. This has been a dreary winter—ice—cold—snow—and roads every where impassable. We thought we had done with the wild weather & were to look for spring—but, as I write, I look out upon the thick snowflakes falling rapidly and filling up all the paths upon which only yesterday we were welcoming the long hidden face of mother earth. I suppose if I go to Washington they will try to bring me into some scrape there; but no matter—if I can do any good to any body, I must trust to my virtue for its own reward—and look to a pure conscience for support against very impure enemies. I will remember your commission in reference to your old political friends & opinions.

For your copy of Currey's letter, accept my thanks. It is only a confirmation of the creature's depravity, which so many have so long suspected. Is it not appalling that any government should trust and tolerate such tools?— Is it for this we became independent?— At one moment the pestilence levels thousands—at another fire scatters havoc & desolation—at another

prejudiced the public against the Indian in general that John Ross sent a delegation of Cherokee to Florida to attempt mediation; see Foreman, *Indian Removal*, p. 352.



the tomahawk glistens and the war-whoop is howled—and yet we go on recklessly as ever, and no more heed these things as warnings than did the Pharaoh who saw & felt the Plagues!—

I should like much to see the verses you mention in which your son speaks of the Guard.— For your daughter's flattering request about ["Sweet Home"] do me the favour to offer her my best thanks. I will write it out for her in my best schoolday hand whenever I find an opportunity of sending it post free. No one deserves a "Sweet Home" better than she does—and no one would be surer to make any home, however sweet, still more so, by her goodness & her genius. But if I send a contribution for *her* Album she must make a sketch for mine. I belong to a section of the republic where we are not in the habit of doing things without large profits—in some places, to be sure, her request would be more than compensation—but in New York we look for per-centage by hundreds & thousands—I have caught the [infection (?)] & must treat with her in the spirit of New York speculation.

[What has (?)] become of Bishop? Did he really run away [? What will (?)] Georgia do with the Cherokees?— I think, under the circumstances, [the] Legislature behaved very handsomely in my case— The report I saw was creditable and in a much finer spirit than has been shown by some who ought to have known better in my own city— To be sure, the Legislature only expressed what every body must feel, and to be told that it was not right to take the liberty and expose the life of a Citizen in a country professing Freedom, is cold satisfaction to a sufferer by such enormities,—yet nevertheless the doing this is something, and something, where less than nothing might have been looked for, deserves a sort of gratitude. The government agents seem to have been busy muzzling the press in our leading cities, in relation to my case,—especially here,

where the Statement I made has been *systematically suppressed*,—studiously kept out of all the public papers—and prevented from appearing in pamphlets,—but it is well enough known wherever it is necessary to be understood, and if occasion should arise, I am prepared to make it more so.— However, unless it can do service to the cause of the wronged or to the future honor of the country, it may as well be forgotten.

Do me the favor, my dear Sir, to give me a line whenever your leisure may allow you. If you can find any documents regarding the Indians, or the early history of our country, pray purchase them for me—I shall want all I can get on that topic.— I had forgotten to ask one thing— Cannot Bishop—Young—& Currey be punished by a law suit? Is not Currey's letter actionable?— Surely it is a libel & a malicious one.—

I have left myself no room for all I would have said in remembrance of your Lady, who is a great favorite of mine, or of your son & must therefore briefly desire you to say all that would have been said to them by

Your obliged & sincere friend  
John Howard Payne.

Mary Harden's request for a copy of "Home, Sweet Home" for her album pointed the way to the climax of John Howard Payne's southern adventure. He apparently never did, as he said he never would, enter the state of Georgia again, but during the summer of the year following his arrest the forty-five-year-old dramatist entrusted to the public mail a letter of proposal to the girl in Athens who was less than half his age:

Madame

I did for a long time indulge in the fallacious hope, that fortune would have favored and placed me in a more suitable situation for making this communication



to you. I have unfortunately been disappointed and have endeavored to calm my feelings and submit to my fate, yet the more I have strived to do so, the more have I been convinced that it would be useless for me any longer to attempt [to struggle] with the sentiments I feel towards you.

I am conscious of my own unworthiness of the boon I desire from you and cannot, dare not, ask you to give a decisive answer in my favor now, only permit me to hope that at some future time I may have the happiness of believing my affection returned, but at the same time I conjure you to remember in making up your decision that it is in your power to render me happy or miserable.

Having frequently through the kind permission of your honored Parents the pleasure of being in your society I every day find it more necessary to come to some conclusion as to my future conduct for when I was obliged to leave you, it was only to renew the agitated state of my mind and to contemplate the image of one too dear to me to resign for ever, without making an effort I was unequal to when in your presence

You will perhaps tell me this is presumption on my part and true it is that I have nothing to offer to you but a devoted heart and hand, however, be assured Madame, whatever your decision may be, fervent wishes for your happiness and welfare shall be the first of my heart—

I have felt it essential to my peace of mind that I should inform you of the state of my feelings satisfied that, that and your amiableness of heart will plead my excuse— I entreat you to reply to this letter (if but one word) indeed I am sure if you knew how anxiously I shall await your answer, compassion alone would induce you to send me an early answer

Allow me Madame to subscribe myself

Your very humble and devoted admirer

[J. H. Payne]

Thursday 14 July 1836

The letter may sound cold and middle-aged to modern ears, less schooled in polite reticence; perhaps it sounded so to Mary Harden. At any rate, tradition has it that she "on the advice of her parents refused John Howard Payne because he could not give her a home. But she could not forget the handsome and charming actor-poet. She never fell in love with anyone else, and although she lived to be over eighty, she always treasured his simple gifts."<sup>20</sup> She did cut his signature from the letter of proposal, to send it to an autograph-collecting friend, but she was careful to note on the margin that the letter had been signed, and by whom, and even supplied the words cut from the text on the back of his signature.

Here, so far as record exists, ends the southern adventure of John Howard Payne. Mary Harden's answer, if she ever gave one, has not been found. The playwright apparently never visited in the South again, though in 1840 he did go to the western Indian Territory by way of New Orleans, and he maintained for years his interest in and collection of material on the Indians.<sup>21</sup> The Georgia affair had hurt him deeply: "We do not live," he wrote John Ross shortly after the incident, "in days of truth and honor."<sup>22</sup> Payne's *Jam Jehan Nima* never saw the light, nor,

<sup>20</sup> Hillier, *op. cit.*, p. 4.

<sup>21</sup> The Payne manuscripts in the Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, contain many of his unpublished papers on the Indian.

<sup>22</sup> John Howard Payne to John Ross, New York, July 8, 1836; see *The Collector*, LX (September, 1947), 192. "I abstained from visiting Washington," Payne explained, "entirely out of delicacy and prudence. I knew that constructions would have been put upon a visit for party purposes equally injurious to your cause and my own character." This two-page letter has recently been added to the manuscript collection of the Duke University Library.

unfortunately for American letters and the literature of the South, did Payne "live to bless" his experience "as a fortunate circumstance of his life," and a means of producing "amid the deafening applause of a Chatham Street or

Covent Garden audience . . . a new drama . . . laid in the Cherokee country, and the characters studied while the author was held 'in durance vile' by the Georgia Guard."<sup>23</sup>

<sup>23</sup> *The Southern Banner*, December 31, 1835.

# COLERIDGE'S MARGINAL COMMENTS ON BOWLES'S *THE SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY*

LEWIS PATTON

AMONG the rarities of the Duke Coleridge Collection is *The Spirit of Discovery by Sea, A Descriptive and Narrative Poem*, published in 1804 by the Rev. William Lisle Bowles. The volume is unprepossessing in appearance and slender in poetic merit, but it is rescued from insignificance by the presence of marginal annotations in the hand of S. T. Coleridge. The annotations are unfortunately in pencil, and some have become illegible. Others have been destroyed by ruthless clipping of the binder. Enough of them remain, however, to add significantly to our knowledge of Coleridge's feelings about his first poetic master. It is not possible to date the annotations. It is probable, however, that Coleridge was eager to read the volume soon after its appearance; it is unlikely that having read it once he would care to do so again.

There are few who would challenge the statement that Bowles's poems would have sunk into obscurity if Coleridge had not praised them. The reasons for this admiration are set forth in Chapter I of *Biographia Literaria* and in scattered comments in his letters. The first reason was a taste for simple diction, supposedly taught him by his schoolmaster, the Rev. James Bowyer. Having come to like Bowles for this cause, Coleridge liked him even more because he was a contemporary. "The poems . . . assume the properties of flesh and blood. To recite, to extol, to contend for them is but the payment

due to one who exists to receive it." And he tells how, when he was seventeen, lacking the money to buy gift copies of Bowles's sonnets, he made forty longhand transcriptions of them with which to gain proselytes.

A deeper cause of his enthusiasm was the appeal of Bowles's tenderness and pathos. Coleridge continually uses such phrases as "the heart and fancy of Bowles," or he asserts that Bowles's sonnets "domesticate with the heart," or that they reconcile "the heart with the head." In a copy of the poems of Bowles (1796) inscribed for a lady, Coleridge wrote: "I entreat your acceptance of this volume, which has given me more pleasure and done my heart more good than all other books I ever read, except my Bible."

By chance an opportunity arose for Coleridge to meet his idol. In 1799 Sheridan, looking about for someone to supply Drury Lane with a new play, asked Bowles for suggestions. Bowles, who had seen the poems of Coleridge (and had seen his own praises there), recommended him. Sheridan, through Bowles, then authorized Coleridge to go ahead. The result was *Osorio*. The manuscript in hand, Coleridge went to Donhead to visit Bowles and to receive his criticisms. Little is known of the details of this visit and the impressions made by each upon the other. The sequel was, however, that Sheridan rejected the tragedy and that Coleridge for some reason thought less of Bowles. In various passages scattered through



his letters Coleridge mingles censure with praise and reaches the just conclusion that "Bowles has indeed the *sensibility* of a poet but not the *passion* of a great poet" (1802). How much less than a great poet Bowles was, Coleridge learned from *The Spirit of Discovery*. The Duke marginalia are unique in showing a tone of exasperation on the part of Coleridge—a tone which no published record of his opinion of Bowles has revealed. He especially censures the want of a sense of direction or sound basic structure in Bowles's writing.

*The Spirit of Discovery* marks a new turn in its author; formerly he wrote, as he says in his introduction, a "brief sonnet to beguile my tears"; now he wakes his harp's strings to "loftier utterance."<sup>1</sup> He traces the progress of navigation by employing the device of the vision or cosmic panorama somewhat in the manner of Young in his *Liberty* or Shelley in *Queen Mab*. An angel speaks to Noah of the things that have been and are to be. Each stage of progress is marred by wickedness but a promise is given of ultimate salvation through the Redeemer. There are conventional denunciations of the slave-trade and of the evils brought by civilized man to the savage. But Bowles balances the picture by condemning the violence and cruelty of the savage. The poem concludes with pious expressions of hope for the future. It is difficult to see what Bowles imagined that he had achieved, except perhaps to provide an asylum for lame adjectives

and limp platitudes. His earlier work, insipid though it may be, has a genuine charm and melodiousness. His failure in this poem is aggravated by a naïve egotism, which, as we shall see, was the special object of Coleridge's castigation.

Coleridge's disapprobation is conveyed either by direct comment, frequently sarcastic, or by a derisive underlining or marginal line. Thus, in the introduction Bowles says (p. vii): "I need not perhaps inform the reader, that I had before written a Canto on the subject of this poem." Coleridge dryly says, "Certa[inly] not." An example of sarcastic underlining occurs on p. viii; its purpose is an ironic emphasis on the aimlessness of the structure of Bowles's poem: "To obviate such objections as might be made by those who, from an inattentive survey, might imagine there was any *carelessness of arrangement*, I shall lay before the reader a *general analysis* of the several books; and, I trust, he will readily perceive a leading principle, on which the poem begins, proceeds, and ends." Coleridge by underlining likewise silently indicates Bowles's naïveté in this passage (p. ix): "In answer [to possible charges of inaccuracy] I must say, that *history* and *poetry* are two things."

In the next comment, part of which is lost to the binder's knife, Coleridge takes his cue from the word *build*, which Bowles uses in the sense of composing (p. x): "As Mr. Bowles . . . throw down his fabric, for he most certainly (in spite of his endeavours to prove the contrary) does not place one stone upon another—alias, build with a regular design." When Bowles asserts (p. x) that his poem is neither didactic nor epic, Coleridge says:

<sup>1</sup> In "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers" Byron, seeking whom he might devour, pounced gleefully upon the hapless Bowles. Satirizing the disorderly jumble of discoveries, "From Captain NOAH down to Captain Cook," he counsels Bowles: "Stick to thy Sonnets, man! at least they sell."

"Qu[ery]—what is it? Something like the old Senator Valla's [Volta's?] epitaph, as thus—

Nec vir, nec mulier, nec Androgyna  
Nec puella, nec juvenis, nec anus  
Nec casta, nec pudices, &c—<sup>2</sup>

Bowles's presumptuousness meets with reproof when he blandly states that he "has no objection to the strictest investigation of the faults" of his poem, "if it be pursued in the spirit of *fair criticism*, and the opinions conveyed in *the language of a GENTLEMAN!*" (p. xii). The last phrase is underlined in pencil and in the margin appears: "Vastly [c]omplaisant."<sup>3</sup>

One of Bowles's ludicrous efforts to establish the unity and coherence of his meandering tale occurs in the "analysis" of the third book (p. xix). Coleridge retorts with the nursery rhyme:

The old song—

There was a man; he had a daugh[ter.]  
And now my story's finish'd quar[ter.]  
There was a man; he had a calf.  
And now my story's finish'd half.  
There was a man; he had a son  
[Last line clipped]

The censorious commentator speaks up concerning the labored analysis of Book V: "We jour[ney] slowly," he complains (p. xxi). On the same page Bowles asserts that "The Poem having thus gained a middle and an end, the conclusion of the whole is" and so

<sup>2</sup> I have not, in spite of much learned assistance, been able to trace Coleridge's source for this piece of scurrilous Latinity. However, when I asked Professor Napoleone Orsini, he recollected instantly that it occurs in the *Lettere* of Remigio Nannini. So it does, on p. 206 of the 1582 edition of *Considerationi Civili* (Venice) in the section of familiar letters. But there it is a riddle and no mention is made of the Senator.

<sup>3</sup> On p. xiv there is a marginal note on the slave-trade which has been cut so much as to render it unintelligible.

forth. Coleridge adds: "As Mr. Bowles seems to have the facu[lt]y of making the end of a thing, before he concludes, it wo<sup>d</sup> perhaps have been as well, if he had made an end of this" and again the binder's knife intervenes.

Thus far, we have traversed the pages of the introduction and analysis. Beside the text of the poem Coleridge has drawn a number of marginal lines but has withheld comment. He has likewise indulged in his favorite pastime of correction, which he practiced incessantly on his own and others' poetry. In the passage (p. 3), "THOU to the strain/Shall haply listen," Coleridge has changed *shall* to *shalt*, for agreement's sake. At intervals there are other corrections of spelling, syntax, and punctuation. On p. 161, Bowles writes: "Look Westward, Spirit, now." Coleridge, recalling the obvious source, misquotes "Lycidas": "Look homeward Spirit Milton."

One marginal jotting, and only one, breathes a note of harmony. When Bowles (p. 40) refers with praise to the passage on the Nile in the seventh idyl of Theocritus, Coleridge, evidently sharing Bowles's taste, quotes the two lines in question, lines 113-114. The Theocritean influence worked strongly upon Bowles, and the idyllic strain may have had something to do with Coleridge's original liking for him. At any rate, it is pleasant that the final quotation from these marginalia should be in a friendly vein, for Coleridge was indeed grateful to Bowles. In *Biographia Literaria* (1817) he testifies to the important service that the older poet had done him in rescuing him from a premature immersion in metaphysical and theological con-

troversy and in strengthening his power of feeling. The contribution of the Duke marginalia lies in showing that before reaching this mature and benign attitude, Coleridge had undergone a sharp and almost angry disillusionment.

Maria Edgeworth tells the story of how another admirer of Bowles, Mme. de Staël, also suffered disillusionment. Accepting an invitation from his neighbor, Lord Lansdowne, to meet Mme. de Staël, Bowles, on his way there, . . . fell, and sprained his shoulder, but still came on. Lord Lansdowne alluded to this in presenting him to Madame de Staël before dinner in the midst of the listening circle. She began to compliment

him and herself upon the exertion he had made to come and see her: "Oh, ma'am, say no more, for I would have done a great deal more to see so great a curiosity!" Lord Lansdowne says it is impossible to describe the *shock* in Madame de Staël's face—the breathless astonishment and the total change produced in her opinion of the man. She afterwards said to Lord Lansdowne, who had told her he was a simple country clergyman, "Je vois bien que ce n'est qu'un simple curé qui n'a pas le sens commun, quoique grand poète."<sup>4</sup>

We have seen Coleridge in a most decided manner challenge Bowles's position as "grand poète."

<sup>4</sup> Quoted in Garland Greever, *A Wiltshire Parson and His Friends*, Boston and New York [1926], pp. 100-101, n.



## GIFTS

THE current membership list of the Friends of the Library shows that the number of members has grown from 114, at the end of 1946, to 208, a gratifying increase but small in comparison to the growth we hope to see in the coming year. Of recent donors, with their varied contributions of books, money, and services, we may mention a few shining examples. Generous monetary gifts have come from Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Spears, Mr. J. Welch Harriss, Professor G. B. Pegram, Professor and Mrs. Paul J. Kramer, Professor and Mrs. Frank DeVyver, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry B. Stone, and Professor and Mrs. W. B. Hamilton. In the field of history and the social sciences a large group of books, documents, and pamphlets has been contributed by Mr. Ralph Snyder of Syracuse, New York. Professor R. W. Van Wagenen has given us documents pertaining to military government in Germany; Mrs. A. Symington of Carthage, N. C., has presented a number of volumes on the Far East. Books on engineering have been contributed by Professor W. H. Hall, books on medicine by Dr. Grant Taylor of Hillsboro. Mr. Curtis Carroll Davis of Baltimore has presented the first American edition of John Bell's *Engravings of the Bones*, the copy having at one time belonged to the author William A. Caruthers. Collections of periodicals have come from Dr. C. Sylvester Green, and Mrs. J. A. Piatt.

Gifts in the field of literature have

been many and varied. Notable contributions have been made by Professors Jay B. Hubbell and Lewis Leary in American literature, by Miss Ida E. Schaberg of St. Louis in German literature. Professor and Mrs. Allan H. Gilbert have given a number of Italian posters, pamphlets, and periodicals. In English literature we note a response to our last desiderata list: Dr. Lyman H. Butterfield of Princeton, N. J., has sent handsome copies of three of the requested Arthur Machen titles. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schuman of New York City have made a valued contribution, consisting of seven first editions of the writings of Seán O'Faoláin. In each volume the author has written a long inscription, often describing the circumstances under which the book was written.

A large collection of books in the field of religion has been received from Mr. W. J. Adams, Jr., of Greensboro. Other gifts in this field have come from the Rev. G. B. Ehlhardt, Dr. Stanley Harrell, and Mr. John A. Hostetler.

All of these fields and others as well are represented in a collection of books, periodicals, and pamphlets, nearly seven hundred in all, presented to the library by Miss Alice Mary Baldwin. Miss Baldwin has been a constant and generous friend to the library for many years; in consideration of her many past services as well as her recent gift, her name is now included among the life-members of the Friends of the Library.

## THE FRANK C. BROWN FOLKLORE COLLECTION

IT is generally known that the folklore materials gathered by the late Frank Clyde Brown are now being prepared for publication, under the general editorship of Professor Newman I. White. Several months ago, Professor White placed the entire collection in the university library, as the gift of Mrs. Frank C. Brown. This gift is of great value, and it is with justice that Mrs. Brown has been accorded life membership in the Friends of the Library. Composed of about 38,000 folklore manuscripts, with 650 musical scores, 1400 vocal recordings, and a variety of related materials, the collection was the result of years of indefatigable searching and is a monument to Professor Brown's perseverance and devotion. Ninety-five per cent of the material relates to North Carolina folklore, but twenty other states and Canada are also represented. The papers run the gamut of folk literature, from charms, omens, and divination, to riddles, proverbs, legends, and songs. The vast labor of organizing these materials was accomplished under Professor White's direction before they reached the library, and the collection is carefully arranged in a special case, now installed in the hall outside the Rare Book Room.

## THE JORDAN LOAN LIBRARY

THE six children of the late Reverend Henry Harrison Jordan have recently established in his name an endowment fund of twenty thousand dollars for the benefit of the Ministers' Loan Library of Duke Divinity School. Since its establishment in January, 1944, the Loan Library has received generous support from several friends and has thus been enabled to serve effectually in its function of supplying religious literature to ministers throughout the nation. The Jordan gift will place the institution, now known as the Henry Harrison Jordan Loan Library, on a more permanent basis and permit great expansion of its collection and services.

The donors of this outstanding gift, whose names now appear among the life-members of the Friends of the Library, are: Mrs. George Way of Camden, S. C.; Mrs. H. C. Sprinkle, Jr., of Greensboro; Dr. Henry W. Jordan of Cedar Falls; Mr. Charles E. Jordan of Durham, vice-president of Duke University; the Reverend Frank B. Jordan of Mt. Airy; and Mr. B. Everett Jordan of Saxapahaw.

## DESIDERATA

The desiderata lists which have appeared in previous issues of *Library Notes* have met with a gratifying response. These lists, it should be understood, are offered merely as suggestions to friends who wish to make gifts of books to the library. In most cases, any available copy of each title, whether the first edition or the twenty-first, will be welcomed; the date of the first edition is mentioned only as a way of "placing" the book. If the copy of *Mirth for the Million* in your attic bears a date later than the 1883 we give, the library will be only too happy to receive it. The desirability and charm of first editions are undeniable, but we are principally interested in securing useful, workaday copies of the titles listed.

A short time before his death the late William H. Glasson presented to the Duke Library a sum of money for the purchase of American works of humor, books by Bill Nye, Josh Billings, George Ade, and others. This fund has been expended, and the library's collection is the richer thereby. In order to continue the work which Dr. Glasson sponsored, it has seemed desirable that we devote one of our lists of desiderata to American humorists of the nineteenth century. The library is hopeful of securing some edition of each of the following titles.

GEORGE WILLIAM BAGBY

*The letters of Mozis Addums to Billy Ivvins.* 1862.

*Meekins's twinsees, a perduckshun uv Mozis Addums.* 1877.

*Mozis Addums' new letters. Number one.* 1860.

*A week in Hepsidam.* 1879.

*What I did with my fifty millions.* 1874.

CHARLES FARRAR BROWNE

*Artemus Ward among the Fenians.* 1866.

*Artemus Ward: Grate snaix: His book.* 1866.

*Artemus Ward's best stories.* Edited by Clifton Johnson, with an introduction by William Dean Howells. 1912.

*Sandwiches.* 1869.

JOHN ROSS BROWNE

*Adventures in the Apache country.* 1869.

*An American family in Germany.* 1866.

*Confessions of a quack: The autobiography of a modern Aesculapian.* 1841.

*Crusoe's island: With sketches of adventure in California and Washoe.* 1864.

*Yusef, or A journey of the Frangi: A crusade in the east.* 1853.

ROBERT JONES BURDETTE

*Hawkeyes.* 1879.

*Sons of Asaph.*

MARCUS L. BYRNE

*The adventures of Fudge Fumble, or The love scrapes of his whole life.* 1852.

*The life and adventures of an Arkansas doctor.* 1851.

*Rattlehead's chronicles.* 1852.

*Rattlehead's travels, or The adventures of a backwoodsman.* 1852.

*Vim and venture of Bolivar Hornet, the Alabama doctor.* 1886.

*Wailings of a wife hunter.* 1882.

CHARLES HEBER CLARK

*Elbow-room: A novel without plot.* 1876.

*Fortunate island, and other stories.* 1882.

*Random shots.* 1879.



THOMAS COOPER

*Memoirs of a nullifier, written by himself.* By a native of the south.

FINLEY PETER DUNNE

*Mr. Dooley: His wit and wisdom.* 3 v.

*A new Dooley book.* 1911.

*Woman's rights.*

EUGENE FIELD

*Contributions in verse to the St. Louis Times-Journal.* 1935.

SAMUEL FISKE

*Mr. Dunn Browne's experiences in foreign parts.* 1866.

ASA GREEN

*A glance at New York.* 1837.

*The life and adventures of Dr. Dodimus Duckworth, A. N. Q. To which is added the history of a steam doctor.* 1833.

*The perils of Pearl street, including a taste of the dangers of Wall street, by a late merchant.* 1834.

*Travels in America by George Fibbleton, Esq., ex-barber to his majesty, the king of Great Britain.* 1833.

JOHN HABBERTON

*Mrs. Mayburn's twins.* 1882.

*Romance of California life.* 1880.

SAMUEL A. HAMMETT

*The wonderful adventures of Captain Priest.* 1855.

MARIETTA HOLLEY

*Josiah's alarm.* 1893.

*Round the world with Josiah Allen's wife.* 1899.

*Samantha at the World's fare.* 1893.

*Tirzah Ann's summer trip.* 1892.

*The Widder Doodle's love affair.* 1893.

JOHNSON JONES HOOPER

*Tales of Alabama.* 1851.

MELVILLE D. LANDON

*Eli Perkins' wit, humor and pathos.* 1883.

CHARLES GODFREY LELAND

*Brand new ballads.* 1885.

*The Egyptian sketch-book.* 1873.

*Pipps among the wide-awakes.* 1860.

*Ye sneak yclepid Copperhead.* 1862.

*Snooping.* 1885.

CHARLES BERTRAND LEWIS

*Bessie Bane, or The Mormon's victim.* 1880.

*The comic biography of James A. Garfield.* 1881.

*Goaks and tears.* 1875.

*Quad's odds.* 1875.

*Sawed-off sketches.* 1884.

*Sparks of wit and humor.* 1887.

*Trials and troubles of the Bowser family.* 1889.

DAVID ROSS LOCKE

*Andy's trip to the west.* 1866.

*The democratic John Bunyan.* 1880.

*The diary of an office seeker.* 1881.

*Divers opinions, and prophecies of yours trooly, Petroleum V. Nasby.* 1865.

*Hanna Jane.* 1882.

*The impendin crisis uv the democracy.* 1868.

*Inflation at the crossroads.* 1875.

*The morals of Abou Ben Adhem.* 1874.

*The president's policy.* 1877.

CORNELIUS MATHEWS

*Behemoth. A legend of the Mound-builders.* 1839.

*The career of Puffer Hopkins.* 1845.

*The various writings of Cornelius Mathews.* 1863.

JOSEPH CLAY NEAL

*Charcoal sketches.* 1865.

*The misfortunes of Peter Faber, and other sketches.* 1856.

*Peter Ploddy and other oddities.* 1844.

ROBERT HENRY NEWELL

*The cloven foot.* 1870.

*The walking doll.* 1872.

EDGAR WILSON NYE

*Baled hay.* 1884.

*Bill Nye, his book.*

*Bill Nye's blossom book.* 1885.  
*Bill Nye's cordwood.* 1887.  
*Bill Nye's thinks.* 1888.  
*Funny fellow's grab bag.* 1903.  
*In the days of the prophet.*  
*Nye and Riley's railway guide.* 1888.  
*Sparks.*

GEORGE W. PECK

*Mirth for the million.* 1883.  
*Peck's sunshine.* 1882.

MARCUS MILLS POMEROY

*Gold-dust.* 1871.  
*Home harmonies.* 1876.  
*Nonsense, etc.* 1868.

OPIE READ

*Miss Polly Lopp, and other stories.* 1895.  
*Old Lim Jucklin; the opinions of an open-air philosopher.* 1905.  
*Opie Read in the Ozarks.* 1905.  
*Opie Read on golf.* 1925.  
*Our Josephine, and other tales.* 1902.  
*Selected stories.* 1891.  
*Twenty good stories.* 1891.

HENRY W. SHAW

*Complete comical writings of Josh Billings.* 1876.  
*Everybody's friend, or Josh Billings' encyclopedia and proverbial philosophy of wit and humor.* 1874.  
*Josh Billings' allminax.* 1869-1879.  
*Josh Billings, his savings.* 1865.  
*Josh Billings on ice and other things.* 1868.  
*Josh Billings' spice box.* 1881.  
*Josh Billings struggling with things.* 1881.  
*Josh Billings' trump kards. Blue grass philosophy.* 1877.  
*Old probability, perhaps rain—perhaps not.* 1879.  
*Snaix.*  
*Twelve ancestral signs in the Billings' zodiac gallery.* 1873.

BENJAMIN PENHALLOW SHILLABER

*Mrs. Partington's new grip-sack, filled*

*with fresh things.* 1890.  
*Mrs. Partington's grab bag.* 1893.

CHARLES H. SMITH

*Bill Arp's letters.* 1868.  
*Bill Arp's scrapbook, humor and philosophy.* 1884.

SEBA SMITH

*John Smith's letters with picters to match.* 1839.  
*May-day in New York.* 1845.  
*Speech of John Smith, esquire, not delivered at Smithville, September 15, 1861.* 1864.

WILLIAM TAPPAN THOMPSON

*Rancy Cottem's courtship.* 1879.

CHARLES H. WEBB

*John Paul's book.* 1874.  
*Liffith Lank, or Lunacy.* 1866.  
*Parodies. Prose and verse.* 1876.  
*Sea-weed and what we seed.* 1876.

GEORGE M. WHARTON

*New Orleans sketch book.* By "Stahl." 1845.  
*The portfolio of a southern medical student.* 1851.

While American humor is under consideration, it seems appropriate to note that the library is inadequately supplied in regard to three humorous magazines of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: *Life*, *Puck*, and *Judge*. Most of us were regaled by these magazines in dentists' waiting-rooms during our youth; many of us may have random copies stored away which will now prove useful in building the library's files. Duke has no volumes of *Judge* (New York, 1-116, 1881-1939) and *Life* (New York, 1-103, 1883-1936); any copy you can supply will meet a need. The Duke file of *Puck* (New York, 1-83, 1877-1918) lacks the following volumes: 26, 52, 55, 56, 58-83.

## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

THE group of student book-collectors organized last year under the sponsorship of the Friends of the Library has held two meetings during the fall semester. At the first, on 14 October 1947, Mr. Guy Davenport was elected chairman of the group. The guest speaker was Professor Weston LaBarre, who displayed and described his collection of the writings of James Joyce and discussed with the students the problems which arise in the collecting of modern authors. At the second meeting, on 11 December, Professor Allan H. Gilbert showed to the assembled students a number of interesting volumes in Latin, Italian, and English literature of the Renaissance, the majority from his private collection. He spoke of collecting from the point of view of the scholar seeking out material for his own studies, and told many amusing anecdotes of his experiences in acquiring much-desired books.

The 1948 competition for student book-collectors has been announced; as was the case last year, two prizes of twenty-five dollars each are to be awarded to the undergraduate man and woman submitting the best collections of books.

### MANUSCRIPT CHECKLIST

The recent publication of the *Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Duke University Library (Historical Papers of the Trinity College Historical Society, Series XXVII-XXVIII, Duke University Press)* has brought

sharply to view the vast extent and great value of the library's manuscript collection. Compiled by Miss Nannie M. Tilley and Miss Noma Lee Goodwin, this excellent catalogue will be a most useful tool, not only to students at Duke but also to scholars and librarians elsewhere.

### EXHIBITIONS

THE first library exhibition of the academic year consisted of first and early editions of English classics, selected from the library's rare book collection. Including handsome copies of such works as *Gulliver's Travels*, *The Spectator*, and Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, in the form in which they first came before the public, the exhibition was, for those who prepared as well as those who saw it, gratifying in its indication of the library's growing resources in the field of English literature.

In October a collection of photographs of Eastern college and university buildings was placed on display. These pictures were lent to the library for exhibition by the Maynard Workshop of Waban, Massachusetts. Another loan-exhibit followed in November: Professor Weston LaBarre of the Sociology Department made available his splendid collection of materials relating to the Indian tribes of Bolivia and Peru. In December, the original copy of the Duke indenture, with books and pictures relating to its signing, was displayed in honor of Duke University Day. Throughout the greater part of the month, however,



the exhibit cases held materials collected by Professor F. A. G. Cowper during his recent visit to France. Maps, newspapers, pamphlets, and a variety of other items illustrated conditions in France today and revealed the efforts of the French to reconstruct their many demolished cities and towns.

During January, the "Fifty Books of the Year 1946" were on display. This

exhibition, prepared by the American Institute of Graphic Arts, consists of books selected for appropriateness and excellence of typography, binding, and illustration.

Plans for the remainder of the school year include exhibitions of emblem books and of selections from the Gustave Lanson Collection of French literature.

# *The Friends of Duke University Library*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. B. E. POWELL, *Chairman*

DR. WALTER A. STANBURY

MRS. MARSHALL SPEARS

MR. HARRY L. DALTON

MR. HENRY SCHUMAN

PROFESSOR NEWMAN I. WHITE

PROFESSOR CHARLES S. SYDNOR

DR. JOSIAH C. TRENT

PROFESSOR FRANCES BROWN

MISS GERTRUDE MERRITT

REV. GEORGE B. EHLHARDT

MISS ELLEN FREY

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

PROFESSOR PAULL F. BAUM

MR. HENRY SCHUMAN

MISS ELLEN FREY

*Please address all communications to:*

*Chairman of the Executive Committee  
Friends of Duke University Library  
Durham, North Carolina*



# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 20

July 1948

---

## ON "A CATALOGUE OF RARE AND VALUABLE BOOKS"

NEWMAN I. WHITE

As though swart Charon's boat, with all on board  
    Had sunk, and put out life-rafts, one of which  
    Had drifted to my study, I grow rich  
In newly rescued friendships. Here, ungored,  
I badger Doctor Johnson, bend the sword  
    That Cyrano resigns to me, or hitch  
    My chair to Fielding's monologue, or snitch  
For private use a jest from Miller's hoard.

So courteous these fellows freshly met,  
    So much the same as they had been before,  
    Antiquely gracious, negligently bright,  
That I, a bookworm, splendidly forget  
    My low estate, till, standing by the door,  
    I watch them down the street, and out of sight.

# ROSSETTI'S "THE WHITE SHIP"

PAULL F. BAUM

**A**MONG the Rossetti manuscripts acquired by the Duke University Library in 1930 are some fragments of a poem which later became "The White Ship." These fragments are described at pp. 43-44 of *Dante Gabriel Rossetti An Analytical List of Manuscripts in the Duke University Library with Hitherto Unpublished Verse and Prose*, edited by the present writer and published by the Duke University Press in 1931. They consist of twenty-seven verses in all, corresponding, in the published text, to ll. 1-6, 151-154, 176-181, 262-265, 269-270 on one page, and on another ll. 82-85, with three cancelled verses replaced by ll. 158-160. These fragments exhibit some small variations from the final text, but more important is the indication there that instead of repeating at the end the first stanza with its refrains, as the poem now stands, Rossetti meant to use ll. 269-270 and 271, 273 with the refrain lines as a conclusion. It seems probable, moreover, that he first wrote out a prose "cartoon" for the whole poem—as he did for "Rose Mary" (see the *Analytical List*, pp. 97 ff.)—and turned this into verse piecemeal.

Now recently the Library has acquired a holograph of the whole poem representing its all but final state. This new manuscript consists of two parts. The first is made up of four sheets of folded note paper, measuring (when folded)  $4\frac{3}{8} \times 7\frac{1}{8}$  in. Of these the first is used as a cover, enclosing the three other folded sheets (which are marked A, B, C in the upper right corners) and contains no writing except the added verses facing A1. The three

enclosed sheets are written on only the first and third pages, leaving the second and fourth either blank or with verses added in the course of composition. The lower half of C3 is blank. The second part of the manuscript (beginning at 1.85 of the completed poem) comprises nine folded sheets of the same size and paper, written similarly on only the first and third pages, except for added verses, and are numbered (in the upper right corners) 1 to 9 consecutively. The poem ends at the bottom of the first page of 9; the remaining pages are blank.

In this manuscript the following sixteen verses of the finished poem are wanting: 9, 10, 15, 18-20, 29, 30, 33, 34, 62, 87, 217, 222, 238, 239; they were of course added (or in the case of 87 substituted) in a later revision. Moreover, in this manuscript itself the following twenty-two verses seem to have been added either in revision or in the process of composition: 11-14, 16, 17, 59, 60, 69-71, 78, 79, 108, 114, 115, 137, 138, 195, 196, 240, 241. That Rossetti was aware of the growth of his poem by accretion or expansion, perhaps as new verses developed from his "cartoon," is testified to by his notation at the end:

230 lines

194 lines

167 lines

These figures do not tally with the evidence of the present manuscript, which, including the additions, contains 264 lines; and it is obvious that they represent preceding versions. At least one such may be inferred from the

different numbering of the folded sheets: A-C and 1-9; and likewise at least one later manuscript must be inferred in which the verses were brought up to their final complement of 279.

In this regard as well as in the details of revision, our manuscript furnishes a valuable example of one of Rossetti's methods of composing; which is of course not unlike that of other poets, did we but have such abundant evidence. Among the more interesting revisions are those of l.62 and ll. 186-91 (see the collation below), the cancelled verses following l.140, one of which became l.145, and the cancelled verses after l.143. Notable also are the attempts which resulted in l.182, 183, followed immediately by the couplet which appears finally ten lines later. One of the poet's greatest difficulties seems to have been with the two stanzas of ll.210-214; not only are there several rewritings here, but more, in a subsequent manuscript, were necessary before he was satisfied.

At one point we can almost watch the poet compose. What we read now as ll.76-77 is

Swifter and swifter the White Ship sped  
Till she flew as the spirit flies from the  
dead.

But Rossetti began this couplet with "F," as for "Faster," then immediately changed his mind, wrote a capital "S" over the "F," and went on—

Swifter and swifter still they sped  
Till they

Then he went back and substituted "she" for "they" in both places; and finally (perhaps to avoid the repetition of sound in "still . . . Till") sub-

stituted "the White Ship" for "still she" and finished the second line as it now stands.

Similarly, at l.198, he started to write "Cried," but after the first three letters changed to "Sighed." And in l.121 he first wrote "through the fro" as though for "frothing" or "frothy," but changed it at once to "foaming." He then had

And back they sped through the foam-  
ing frill

As the leaf scuds in a water-mill.

This however did not please him, no doubt because of the queerness of "frill"; so he tried again:

And back through the flying foam they  
reel

As a leaf scuds in a water-wheel.

This he could still improve upon, for in a later revision, which does not show in our manuscript, the couplet became

And back with the current's force they  
reel,

Like a leaf that's drawn to a water-wheel.

To some people it may seem impertinent and sacrilegious to look behind the veil and behold genius taking pains. These people like to think of poetry and all works of art as rising full-formed like Venus in all her beauty from the sea. But for others it is a privilege to study the growth of beauty; and for them it is no diminution of the poet's gift to know that he applied to his art what Rossetti himself was accustomed to call "the fundamental brainwork" of composition. For most poets we have at the best only the revisions in successive printed editions, and these are instructive enough—though they may also be deceptive.



(For Tennyson explained once that what looked like a revision in the second edition was only a return to the first reading of his manuscript.) But it is often worth still more to look over the poet's shoulder while he works and watch him in his search for just the right word, the right turn of expression, and even see the idea taking shape or the progressive adjustment of idea to language.

The following is a full collation of our manuscript with the standard printed text. No account is taken however of Rossetti's punctuation, which is often irregular. When two readings are separated by the square bracket, the first is that of the print, the second that of the manuscript. When the manuscript has an alteration which makes it correspond to the print, a square bracket follows the reading; when there is no such alteration, no sign follows. When these symbols would not be clear the phrase "altered to" (*alt. to*) is used, or the explanation is spelled out. In a few instances, where the changes are too complex to be indicated in the conventional way, the whole passage is transcribed. The numbers at the left are those of the printed text.

### THE WHITE SHIP

(25 Nov. 1120)

- 4 Twas  
 7 King Henry had pledged his oath (*alt. to* plighted a vow) full fain  
 9-10 *wanting*  
 11-14, 16, 17 *added on page facing*  
 13 Times had changed since from coast to coast]  
 15 *wanting*  
 16 He had struck sore blows to crown his son  
 18-20 *wanting*

- 21 And  
 23 now]  
 25 of]  
 27 Twas  
 29-30 *wanting*  
 32 captain] sea-faring  
 33-34 *wanting*  
 35 And he said: "O King I]  
 36 deck]  
 41 that *over* ?our her] its *over* ?the  
 42 be my due] liketh you an  
 45 today  
 47 well-tryed] chosen  
 48 "My ship" quoth the King "is (*alt. to* "My ships" quoth the King "are) fixed upon  
 50 sons  
 52 a fair]  
 53 those coasts]  
 55 with] fair]  
 56-58 Three hundred souls *cancelled*  
 With valiant (*alt. to* noble) Knights  
 & with ladies fair  
 And (*alt. to* With) courtiers & sailors  
 gathered there  
 Three hundred living souls they (*alt. to* we) were  
 59-60 *added on page facing*  
 59 meanest *over word heavily crossed out*  
 61 reckless *alt. to* lawless  
 62 And if of King's heirs men said the truth  
 They had called him meat for the devil's tooth  
*First line cancelled; second line alt. to*  
 And men (*alt. to* Men) held him as meat for *etc.* (*Not in print*)  
 64 But] were more than]  
 66 drink before they shall]  
 67 We *cancelled; then* Our speed  
 68 feast in the harbour till]  
 72 *at first followed 68; then 69-71 were crowded between:*  
 The sailors made good cheer without check  
 The lords and ladies obeyed his beck  
 The night was still & th  
*then this was crossed out and fair copied at bottom of page:*

- The sailors (*alt. to rowers*) made good cheer without check  
 The lords & ladies obeyed his beck,  
 The night was still (*alt. to light*) & they danced on the deck
- 72 With the midnight]  
 76 S of Swifter *written over* F the White Ship] still they she *cancelled*  
 77 With *alt. to* Till they (*alt. to* she)  
 78-79 *added on page facing* wan *alt. to* fair
- 81 What songbird's fli *alt. to* course is more]  
 82 And under the stars as they raced along]  
 85 No song,—a shriek]  
 86-91 That leaped o'er the waves:—like a distant (*alt. to* wild far) sigh  
 The King's ships heard it and knew not why.
- A shriek that answered the distant shock  
 As the ship's keel felt the hidden (*alt. to* sunken) rock
- 97 As a swimming bladder fills when pierced  
 104 Row, row!]  
 107 ?ailing *alt. to* choking  
 108 *written in later between 107 and 109*  
 112 turned about]  
 114-115 *added between stanzas, but first written (on page facing) and marked to follow 129:*  
 To the toppling decks all clung amain  
 As a fly clings to a window pane
- 120 shall]  
 121 they sped through the fro? (*alt. to* foaming) frill *alt. to* through the flying foam they reel  
 122 As the (*alt. to* a) leaf scuds in a water-mill (*alt. to* -wheel)  
 123 Neath  
 124 hovered *alt. to* rose  
 125 Low] Prone leaned] lay  
 114-115 *first added here to follow 129, but moved to follow 113*  
 136 With the rest, by God's will,  
 137-138 *added between the lines*
- 139 A Prince he was]  
 140 Yet to save his sister's life he died.  
 He had made his father's heart to ache,  
 Yet he died there for his sister's sake
- When he *etc.* (141)  
*After* 143 But where the Judge of all Kings doth stand,  
 His sister knelt with him hand in hand.
- 152 o'er] o'er *alt. to* on water's womb] middle sea  
 153 come] be  
 154 Amid vain prayers]  
 165 high] blithe  
 167 shewn]  
 168 space]  
 172 sea]  
 174 rent] split  
 176 dim] dark  
 182 ff. And each said, God have mercy on me!  
 Then cried we upon God's name, as we  
 Did drift on the bitter biting sea.
- And (*alt. to* They) each cried, "God have mercy on me!"  
 And the hours passed, & I & he  
 Did drift on the bitter biting sea.
- These six lines cancelled and followed by*  
 Then cried we upon God's name, as we  
 Did drift on the bitter biting sea.
- (193) And each knew each as the hours (*alt. to* moments) sped  
 (194) Less as (*alt. to* for) one living than as (*alt. to* for) one dead
- 184 But once a third face (*alt. to* man)  
 185 thee too he shall]  
 188 quoth] said  
 190 left] down through *alt. to* down in *alt. to* through
- For 193-194 see above*  
 195-196 *added on page facing, to follow 192*  
 195 dim]  
 198 CriSighed  
 200 said]  
 203 Then morning rose afar

205 yet I still might (*alt. to did*) float]  
 206 I clung sore dazed, and might little  
     note *alt. to* Yet (*cancelled*) Half dead  
     I clung, and might little note  
 208 over *alt. to* high o'er  
 209 we]

210-213 *Much revised; the successive altera-*  
     *tions seem to be as follows:*  
     Next my tale I told to a priest  
     Who bade me keep it in mine own  
     breast

And fast my way fast was I moved  
     where

*Above first line:* Then first That morn  
     (*cancelled*) I told

*Beneath first line:* Who had (*cancelled*)  
     charged me, till my shrift were re-  
     leased

*Beneath second line:* That I should keep  
     it in mine own breast

*Above third line:* day & night  
     though I went with the

*and above moved:* come to

*Then all this crossed out and copied*  
*fair on page facing:*

Then first I told my tale to a priest  
     Who charged me, till my shrift were  
     released

That I should keep it in mine own  
     breast

And thence I went with the priest to  
     where

215 We] I  
 216 And he wept & made me tell it again  
 217 *wanting*  
 218 me  
 221 From me first learnt *alt. to* That now  
     they knew

222 *wanting*  
 223 For two whole days *alt. to* The King  
     had watched

225 he would  
 226 my son] the Prince  
 227 lie] are

229 English]  
 230 not more bright]

231 eyes tha so *alt. to* are blue & bright  
 236 one] they

238-239 *wanting*

240-241 *added on page facing, to follow*  
     237

244 long]  
 245 around *alt. to* about] throne]

247 little was said and little]

248 Then first]

260 kneeled]

265 Lie in the sea's bed with

266 Then the King fell

267 he lay in his bed

273 *no space above and below*

*Beneath last line: D G Rossetti*  
     1880

230 lines *lined through*

194 lines *lined through*

167 lines *lined through*



# THE "COLD WAR" OF 1790-1791

*Documented by a Collection of Eighteenth-Century Pamphlets in the  
Duke University Library*

JAMES L. WOODRESS, JR.

## I

THE members of the London Revolution Society scarcely had expected to be present on a memorable occasion when they assembled at the meeting house in the street known as Old Jewry to observe the 101st anniversary of the Glorious Revolution on November 4, 1789. The main speaker on the program was Dr. Richard Price, an elderly Welsh minister, who achieved by his sermon that day what immortality he may have in the history of letters. He spoke on the subject of patriotism, hiding under the innocent title *On the Love of Our Country* a rapturous eulogy of the French Revolution. His sermon proved to be the opening salvo in a verbal barrage which rocked England in the 1790's.

Meanwhile, across the English Channel events had moved swiftly following the fall of the Bastille in the summer of 1789. By autumn the French National Assembly had completed the new Civil Constitution for the Clergy, but the king delayed his acceptance of it. When the food situation in Paris took a critical turn during the month before Price spoke in London, a mob broke into the palace at Versailles, forcing the militia under the Marquis de la Fayette to take the king and queen into protective custody.

Price's sermon before the Revolution Society evoked in answer Edmund Burke's eloquent *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1790), and

Burke himself inspired in reply Thomas Paine's *Rights of Man* (1791-1792). These two documents began a chain reaction among the amateur and professional pamphleteers of the day. The arguments flashed back and forth while British patriots thoroughly probed, analyzed, condemned, and praised the French Revolution. It was not until the Reign of Terror (1793) that British liberals cast suspicious glances towards France, and the output of pamphlets slackened.

In 1941 the Duke University Library acquired a valuable pamphlet collection which records this controversy from the publication of Price's sermon in 1789 until the early months of 1792. The pamphlets are gathered into twelve volumes and comprise nearly all the important documents in this lively and often bitter pamphlet war. Information about the collector of these pamphlets and the circumstances under which they were assembled is not available. The pamphlets are in excellent condition, and until this writing the pages of one remained uncut. Included among them are first editions of Price's sermon, Burke's *Reflections*, and Mary Wollstonecraft's *Vindication of the Rights of Men*. In addition there is a rare copy of the suppressed edition of Paine's *Rights of Man* bearing the imprint of J. Johnson, the publisher who first agreed to bring out the book but lost his nerve after only a few copies had been printed.

The anonymous scholar who brought these pamphlets together used excellent judgment in his selection, representing with admirable impartiality both sides of the controversy. The collection contains fifty-four items, which vary in length from thirty to five hundred pages. Thirty-two of them defend the French Revolution in terms which fluctuate between cautious approbation and uncritical adulation; and twenty-one support the British Constitution and Burke's condemnation of the Revolution. The fifty-fourth and last item in the collection, the entire twelfth volume, is judiciously devoted to an anonymous work purporting to be *An Impartial History of the Late Revolution in France*. This work covers the period from the beginning of the Revolution until the execution of Marie Antoinette in 1793 and is the only item published after mid-1792.

By far the greatest part of the collection pertains to the debate which went on between Burke and Paine. One of Burke's early biographers, Sir James Prior, reports that thirty-eight replies to Burke's *Reflections* appeared within a few months after the book's publication; other biographers have counted varying numbers. Twenty-seven of these answers are in the present collection. There are in addition four pamphlets written in defense of Burke, but that eloquent statesman hardly needed the support of obscure pamphleteers, and his champions saved their strongest invective to hurl against the *Rights of Man*. Twelve of the replies to Paine are preserved in this collection. It is possibly significant that there are no pamphlets rising to the defense of Paine. It is as though Paine's supporters were completely ab-

sorbed in the unequal task of cudgeling Burke. Only two of the better known answers to Burke, Sir James Mackintosh's *Vindiciae Gallicae* and Joseph Priestley's *Letters to the Right Honorable Edmund Burke . . .*, are missing from this superb collection, but they are readily available elsewhere in the library. It also is interesting to note that nearly half of these pamphlets, twenty-three out of fifty-four, were hurled into the arena by authors who elected to hide behind the mask of anonymity. Some of the anonymous answers are intelligently ordered and cogently written, so that one wishes the authors could be identified. One or two of these unknown pamphleteers, perhaps, were figures of importance in the history of politics and letters.

## II

When Price was preaching before the Revolution Club in the Old Jewry, Burke was watching events in France with suspended judgment. All England had been astonished by the developments following the fall of the Bastille. The liberals were exuberant, and even the conservatives hoped that the French were at last going to enjoy the benefits of a limited, British-type constitutional monarchy. Burke revealed his opinion of the Revolution in August, 1789, when he wrote to a young Frenchman named Dupont, the same person to whom the *Reflections* were addressed the following year. His cautious, waiting attitude is unmistakably clear in this letter. Speaking of liberty, Burke wrote, "It is our inheritance; it is the birthright of our species." He added, however, that the liberty he referred to was only to be secured by equality of restraint—mere-



ly another name for justice. Then Burke warned: "You may have made a revolution but not a reformation. You may have subverted monarchy but not recovered freedom." At this writing, however, Burke admits the possibility that the French Revolution was inevitable, saying that "a positively vicious and abusive government ought to be changed—and if necessary by violence—if it can't be (as is sometimes the case) reformed."

While Burke was making up his mind about the Revolution, the two events which most influenced his opinion occurred less than a month apart. On October the fifth and sixth the Parisian mob broke into the palace at Versailles, forcing the royal family to suffer the indignity of invaded domestic privacy. This occurrence exerted a powerful effect on Burke, whose belief in law, order, and precedent went clear to the roots of his political philosophy. He stored up the memory of this incident to use in the *Reflections* in the much-admired description of Marie Antoinette—the passage in which he concludes that "the age of chivalry is gone . . . and the glory of Europe is extinguished for ever." Less than a month later Price spoke before the Revolution Society, making the speech which caused Burke to react both sharply and extensively. These two events seem to have tipped the balance in Burke's judgment against the Revolution. Mob rule, he felt, was a perversion of liberty and justice; on the other hand, Price's unbridled panegyric was a pernicious and unrealistic reaction to it. Both developments called for Burke's most forceful and uncompromising rhetoric.

There is little that is intrinsically re-

markable about the sermon which launched a pamphlet war. Price had confined himself mostly to generalities in praise of truth, virtue, liberty, and patriotism. Nevertheless, he gave Burke a point of departure when he outlined his notion of the principles established by the Revolution of 1688. These he defined as the right to choose our own governors, to cashier them for misconduct, and to form a government for ourselves. Burke took issue with this statement of British political doctrine, and when he wrote his *Reflections* he stated as forcefully as he was able the opposite view. On this point the replies to the *Reflections* are almost unanimously opposed to Burke. It remained, however, for Price's eulogy of the French Revolution at the close of his sermon to inspire Burke's most withering eloquence. Price had ended his remarks with this oratorical flourish:

What an eventful period is this! I am thankful that I have lived to see it; and I could almost say, 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace. . . .' Methinks I see the ardor for liberty catching and spreading; a general amendment beginning in human affairs. . . . Tremble all you oppressors of the world! Take warning all ye supporters of slavish governments, and slavish hierarchies!

Burke was so infuriated by this passage that he began his book with a savage attack on the old clergyman. He compared Price to the infamous Hugh Peters, who had been executed at the Restoration for his part in the beheading of Charles I. So strong were Burke's remarks that Sir Philip Francis wrote in February, 1790, "Have you thoroughly considered whether it be worthy of Mr. Burke . . . to enter into



a war of pamphlets with Dr. Price?" Francis had seen early page-proofs of the *Reflections*, which Burke had wanted him to read, and he had disapproved of the book strongly. In a long letter to Burke Francis urged suppression of the *Reflections*, basing his recommendations more on the bitter, partisan tone of the book than on the political philosophy it contained. Burke, however, wrote Francis a polite letter of thanks for his advice and went ahead with revising and adding to the book.

Ten days before the exchange of letters between Francis and Burke, the latter had set his face unalterably and publicly against the French Revolution. This declaration took place in a tempestuous debate in the House of Commons on the Army Estimates Bill on February 9, 1790. William Pitt had just spoken in favor of a large army and the need for sufficient funds to maintain it. Burke rose to his feet and delivered a stinging attack on the Revolution, opposing the army bill on the grounds that France had pulled down her monarchy, her church, her army, and her commerce. In the last century, he said, we were in danger from the despotism of Louis XIV; now we are in danger from anarchy. France, he added, is in the hands of an "irrational, unprincipled, proscribing, confiscating, plundering, ferocious, bloody, and tyrannical democracy." Coming a scant seven months after the fall of the Bastille, this speech was too strong for the Whig bench, and the eloquent Charles James Fox jumped to his feet and delivered a rebuttal. The seeds of the break between Fox and Burke, which finally came in May, 1791, were sown that day. An immediate rupture took

place between Burke and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the playwright turned statesman, who picked up the debate where Fox dropped it. Such an acrimonious exchange took place between Burke and Sheridan that the two parted political company on the spot.

Almost a year to the day after the meeting of the Revolution Society Burke's *Reflections* came off the press. During the months of 1790 Burke wrote, revised, and polished his manuscript. Despite the charge of one anonymous pamphleteer that the *Reflections* are intemperate, Burke wrote slowly and deliberately. He made so many changes in the proofs that the printer was obliged to reset the entire work. Burke knew exactly what he was doing, and the effect of the book was calculated. The book, selling for five shillings, was brought out on November 1, 1790, by J. Dodsley in a modest octavo of 356 pages in gray paper covers. The public, which had been awaiting it since Burke's Army Estimates Speech, bought out one edition after another. The response was so overwhelming that the book went through eleven editions in the following twelve months. The *Reflections* came at psychologically the right moment, a time when public opinion on the French Revolution was ready to be precipitated. The liberals of the day scarcely finished reading Burke before they began writing replies, and in the Duke collection there are no less than ten pamphlets against Burke which appeared in the eight-week period following publication of the *Reflections*. The conservatives, who had been waiting for a champion, immediately rallied to Burke's standard.

Congratulations came from Oxford, where there was talk of granting Burke an honorary degree. George III praised the work, and Stanislaus of Poland sent felicitations and a medal. Even the unhappy Louis XVI is said to have translated the book into French.

### III

It is beyond the scope of this article to consider the content of the *Reflections*. The book is a prose tapestry, colorful, ornate, and sumptuous—a work which has been reprinted every few years since its original publication. Neither is there space to examine in detail the hastily written answers to this carefully wrought literary masterpiece. With the single exception of Paine's *Rights of Man* these replies belong to the limbo of ephemeral journalism. They are distinguished, however, by their earnestness, and sometimes the spur of righteous indignation seems to have goaded the writers into bursts of eloquent invective.

With astonishing rapidity the first of the adversaries hastened to do battle with Burke. This opponent was Major John Scott, a member of the Revolution Society, who also was the inept London agent of Warren Hastings. Scott finished his reply to Burke, which he published anonymously, five days after the appearance of the *Reflections*. His hurriedly produced pamphlet is, indeed, the attack of a gnat upon a giant. It is the sort of answer that the writer of a pamphlet on the opposite side of the controversy, Charles Hawtrey of Oxfordshire, must have had in mind when he aptly observed somewhat later that the puny answers to Burke's performance might serve to be "hung like trophies hereafter around the tomb of Mr. Burke."

The second opponent to enter the lists was Mary Wollstonecraft, later to become Mrs. William Godwin and the mother of Mary Shelley. In 1790 she was employed in London doing hack work for the publisher Johnson. She promptly wrote in reply to Burke a pamphlet called *A Vindication of the Rights of Men*. It was written, as the author admits, in the heat of indignation and contains both moving argument and hysterical invective. The author accuses Burke of hypocrisy, questions his piety, reproves his attack on Price, and condemns his contempt of the masses. With particular zeal she pounces on Burke's lamentation for the passing of chivalry and his defense of the queen, passages which even Burke's friend Francis had called "pure foppery." She taunted Burke:

And you mourn for the idle tapestry that decorated a gothic pile and the dronish bell that summoned the fat priest to prayer. You mourn for the empty pageant of a name, when slavery flaps her wings, and the sick heart retires to die in lonely wilds, far from the abodes of man.

This answer to Burke is at best a literary curiosity, impassioned and sometimes eloquent, unrevised and digressive. It is scarcely a rebuttal of the *Reflections*, although on occasion the author scores an effective point.

Burke's savage attack on Price at the outset of the *Reflections* had the immediate effect of magnifying the importance of Price's sermon. Formerly an outspoken liberal but hardly a dangerous radical, Price became the maligned martyr of the new era of liberty and brotherhood. One of the last acts of his life was to defend himself against Burke in the fourth edition of his ser-



mon, published during the month after the appearance of Burke's book. In the preface to this edition Price justly reprehends Burke for the slanderous comparison he draws between him and Hugh Peters. Price also criticizes Burke for his zealous support of hereditary claims and aristocratical distinctions and for his abhorrence of "popular rights and the aid of philosophy in forming government." On the question of principles established by the Revolution of 1688 Price again upholds his contention that the people's right to choose their own governors had been set at that time.

Capel Lofft, a charter member of the Constitutional Society, is one of the more articulate of the early critics who hurried into print to offset the effect of Burke's *Reflections*. His answer, also published before Burke's book was a month old, is objective, calm, but hardly brilliant. He begins with a dispassionate but nevertheless strongly affirmative answer to the question whether a revolution in France had been necessary. He bulwarks his defense of the Revolution with arguments that have a distinct Rousseauistic flavor.

The tone of Lofft's reply, however, is in sharp contrast to the more usual indignant outburst, and one of the best examples of the enraged response is found in *Reflections upon Reflections*, the work of a Robert Woolsey, who begins forthrightly: "Sir, I have read your *Reflections* with concern and indignation." He accuses Burke of writing with a soul "prejudiced in favor of tyranny and superstition." This pamphlet still sputters with righteous wrath and serves to illustrate vividly the extreme partisanship with which the de-

bate was carried on. When Woolsey rallies to the defense of Price, for example, he is unusually bitter, charging that the *Reflections* "bespatter him [Price] with filth." He further addresses an indictment to Burke because, as he says, "you censure in the lump and damn like the Pope, by your own infallibility."

The replies to Burke which came from the presses by the thousands in the late weeks of 1790 and the early weeks of 1791 are too numerous to discuss in detail. It is worth pointing out, however, that the answers were written by people in every rank and walk of life. The aristocracy was represented by Sir Brooke Boothby, while Joseph Towers and Joseph Priestley spoke for the clergy. The commoners in profusion replied, two of the more articulate being George Rous (whose reply went through four editions by the end of 1791) and Benjamin Bousfield. Even young M. Dupont, the Frenchman to whom the *Reflections* had been originally addressed, produced a pamphlet in which he declared that he was sorry he ever had asked for Burke's opinion on the Revolution. Another colorful character who joined the pamphlet war was Catharine Macaulay, heiress and daughter of a London merchant, who dabbled in writing history and flouting convention. As an old campaigner, she had crossed swords with Burke before, and this reply is a lively farrago of shrewd argument and illogical deduction in support of a genuine passion for political liberty. Her answer to Burke was addressed to the third Earl Stanhope, another extreme liberal, who had published a reply to Burke's *Army Estimates Speech* eight months before the *Reflections* came out.



## IV

Paine returned to England in 1787 after more than twelve years in America. With America's achievement of independence one phase of his unrelenting struggle for political freedom had ended. When he reached England he visited Burke at Beaconsfield to enlist support for the promotion of an iron bridge which he had designed. Burke was interested, and the two men visited Yorkshire to obtain technical advice from experts in the iron foundries. At that time Paine regarded Burke as an unequivocal champion of liberty; his speech *On Conciliation with America* (1775) had given him the reputation of America's warmest friend in England. In the fall of 1789 Paine crossed to France to see the French Revolution at first hand, and he wrote Burke early in 1790 that events were moving along hopefully in France. It was a shock to Paine to discover that Burke had denounced the Revolution in his *Army Estimates Speech* on February ninth. When the *Reflections* was subsequently announced for publication, Paine promised his friends that he would write an answer. He was in England when Burke's pamphlet appeared, and he set about replying to it immediately, preparing his *Rights of Man* for publication in time for the opening of Parliament in February. He engaged his friend Johnson to publish the book, but this publisher became frightened at some of the treasonable passages in the text and withdrew from the arrangement. Only a few copies of this edition found their way into private hands, and the *Rights of Man*, Part I, was then brought out on March 12, 1791, by J. S. Jordan. The second part, which is less an answer to

Burke than a treatise on government, appeared on February 17, 1792, and was directly responsible for a law against seditious publications. Jordan was prosecuted and Paine escaped to France while awaiting trial.

With the publication of the *Rights of Man* the controversy in England over the French Revolution reached a deafening fortissimo. The supporters of the Revolution now had a champion able to meet Burke on his own ground. The heavy blows of Burke's eloquence were parried by Paine's sharp, racy thrusts. The *Rights of Man* is too well known and too easily accessible to need extensive treatment here, and it is enough to say that the effectiveness of this answer to Burke is immediately apparent from its tempestuous reception, which ended in suppression and prosecution. The book sold rapidly, reaching a seventh edition by the end of the year. The public seemed as anxious to read Paine as it had been to read Burke. Paine's great asset was his remarkable ability to reduce complex ideas to simple terms and to nail down a point with a vivid epigrammatic summation. When Paine suggested that a hereditary mathematician was as logical as a hereditary legislator, or answered Burke's lament for the demise of chivalry with the retort that Burke "pities the plumage, but forgets the dying bird," it was no wonder that the *Rights of Man* was regarded as a dangerous book.

The twelve replies to Paine (Parts I and II) which are preserved in the Duke pamphlet collection were written with the unanimous conviction that the *Rights of Man* was a menace. Even Burke felt obliged to write his *Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs* (1791)

partly in refutation of Paine's charge that he was receiving a pension from the government. The replies to the *Rights of Man* were aptly characterized by Paine himself in the preface to Part II when he wrote:

Not less, I believe, than eight or ten pamphlets, intended as answers to the former part of the *Rights of Man* have been published by different persons, and not one of them, to my knowledge, has extended to a second edition, nor are the titles of them so much as generally remembered. As I am averse to unnecessarily multiplying publications, I have answered none of them.

Paine's adversaries were no more a match for him than the other pamphleteers were the equal of Burke. The replies to Paine are anonymous with the single exception of the answer by Charles Hawtrey, mentioned earlier, who dismissed the *Rights of Man* with the brave assertion that it "operates with just as much force against that admirable performance [Burke's *Reflections*] as the pecking of a beetle does against a rock of adamant." This was not the view, however, of the eleven anonymous pamphleteers. *A New Friend on an Old Subject* declared that "Mr. Paine's book is perhaps one of the most dangerous publications that ever appeared on any subject; calculated to seduce the weak and encourage the disaffected, and expressly written to destroy every existing sentiment of duty, affection, and respect." Another writer, who signed himself merely as "An Englishman," described the *Rights of Man* in this manner: "Mr. Paine's system is founded in deep dissimulation . . . his words are . . . extremely smooth and oily."

Then he concluded that no one "can escape the viperous stroke of his envenomed pen!" And in the opinion of "A British Freeholder" Paine's "execrable puns, and impotent sallies of vulgar sarcasm, smell so strongly of the kennel, that their mere noisomeness is offensive." In all the replies to the *Rights of Man* there is a common failing: invective substitutes for argument and emotion takes the place of reason.

## V

With the single exception noted earlier this pamphlet collection ends with a solitary and ineffectual reply to the *Rights of Man*, Part II. On May 14, 1792, the government took action against Paine's publisher Jordan, and soon afterwards it followed with the decree suppressing seditious publications and the institution of criminal proceedings against Paine. More and more violence in France, culminating in the execution of the King, alienated British liberals who had at first supported the Revolution. Moreover, a decree of the French National Convention in December, 1792, announced the determination of the French to carry their Revolution to the oppressed of all Europe. Soon the French Revolutionary Wars were in full progress, and the die-hard supporters of the French Revolution in England were partially eclipsed.

The foregoing pages have attempted only a brief study of the more interesting portions of this excellent collection of eighteenth-century pamphlets. A detailed study of the fifty-four items in the group carries with it a peculiar satisfaction. From no second-hand source can one get the same feeling of being at the ring-side of one of the



great events of history that is communicated by these pamphlets. They are the record of a period of great political and social upheaval, when government was slowly becoming the concern of the masses. From every page leaps the expression of strong emotion—the brusque and vigorous articulation of the new political consciousness and the profound and forlorn dismay of the old order of rank and privilege. The reader of these documents has a very real sense of participating in the intellectual ferment of that stirring era, the age of the French Revolution.

The collection described above contains the following items. Roman and arabic numerals after each entry refer to position in the several volumes.

#### BACKGROUND AND COLLATERAL MATERIAL

*Address of the National Assembly of France to the People; Shewing What they have already done, What they farther intend, And Answering their Calumniators. With an Appendix. . . .* London: J. Ridgway, 1790. IV, 7.

Anonymous. *Free Thoughts on Liberty, and the Revolution in France.* By the Author of a Letter to Earl Stanhope on the Test. Oxford: J. Fletcher, 1790. I, 4. (Also antedates the *Reflections* and in preface urges Stanhope to abandon republicanism.)

— *An Impartial History of the Late Revolution in France, from Its Commencement, to the Death of the Queen, and the Execution of the Deputies of the Gironde Party.* London: Printed for the authors, 1794. XII, 1.

— *King or No King: or, Thoughts on the Escape of Lewis XVI. and on the Kingly Office, in a Letter Addressed to the Society of 1789.* Translated from

the French. London: J. Ridgway, 1791. VI, 1.

— *Lettre d'un Démocrate, Partisan de la Révolution, aux Aristo-Théocrates Français.* Septième Edition. Orleans: Chez Jacob aîné; London: Reprinted for Stace and Maids, 1791. VII, 7.

[Burke, Edmund] *An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs, in Consequence of Some Late Discussions in Parliament, Relative to the Reflections on the French Revolution.* London: J. Dodsley, 1791. II, 1.

— *Reflections on the Revolution in France, and on the Proceedings in Certain Societies in London Relative to That Event.* London: J. Dodsley, 1790. I, 5.

Nares, R[obert]. *Principles of Government Deduced from Reason, Supported by English Experience, and Opposed to French Errors.* London: John Stockdale, 1792, VI, 3. (Parallels Burke's *Reflections*.)

Price, Richard. *A Discourse on the Love of Our Country. . . .* London: Printed by G. Stafford for T. Cadell, 1789. I, 1. (With an appendix containing material pertinent to the business of the Revolution Society.)

Raynal [Guillaume Thomas], Abbé. *A Letter from the Abbé Raynal to the National Assembly of France, on the Subject of the Revolution, and the Philosophical Principles Which Led to It. . . . To Which is Added, The Declaration of the Chevalier Bintinaye. . . .* London: G. G. J. & J. Robinson, 1791. VII, 8. (With original French text.)

Sieyes [Emmanuel Joseph], Abbé. *An Essay on Privileges, and Particularly on Hereditary Nobility. . . .* Translated into English, with Notes, by a Foreign Nobleman, now in England. London: J. Ridgway, 1791. VI, 2.



PAMPHLETS ATTACKING AND DEFENDING  
BURKE

- Anonymous. *An Address to the National Assembly of France; Containing Strictures on Mr. Burke's Reflections on the Revolution in France*. Cambridge: Printed by J. Archdeacon and sold by W. H. Lunn, 1791. VII, 4.
- *Comparison of the Opinions of Mr. Burke and Mons. Rousseau, on Government Reform, and Strictures on the Answers to Mr. Burke*. London: C. Lowndes, 1791. V, 2.
- *A Letter to a Member of the National Assembly: Containing Remarks on the Proceedings of That Legislative Body; Strictures on the Political Doctrines of Mr. Burke and Mr. Paine...* London: J. S. Jordan, 1791. II, 2. (Only mildly critical of Paine.)
- *A Letter to the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, Esq. from a Dissenting Country Attorney; In Defence of His Civil Profession, and Religious Dissent*. Birmingham: Printed by J. Thompson and sold by J. Johnson, London, 1791. V, 4.
- *The Political Crisis: or, A Dissertation on the Rights of Man*. London: J. S. Jordan, 1791. II, 5. (Less an attack on Burke than on another opponent of the Revolution, Edward Tatham.)
- *Short Observations on the Right Hon. Edmund Burke's Reflections*. London: G. Kearsley, 1790. IV, 1.
- *Strictures on the Letter of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, on the Revolution in France...* London: J. Johnson, 1791. VII, 2.
- *Temperate Comments upon Intemperate Reflections: or, A Review of Mr. Burke's Letter*. London: J. Walter, 1791. III, 3.
- *A Vindication of the Right Honorable Edmund Burke's Reflections...*

- London: J. Debrett, 1791. V, 1. (Replies to each of ten attacks on Burke appearing between November, 1790, and January, 1791.)
- Belsham, W[illiam]. *Examination of An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs; To Which Is Prefixed, An Introduction Containing Remarks on Mr. Burke's Letter to a Member of the National Assembly*. London: C. Dilly, 1792. X, 1.
- [Boothby, Sir Brooke] *A Letter to the Right Honorable Edmund Burke*. London: J. Debrett, 1791. III, 4.
- Bousfield, Benjamin. *Observations on the Right Hon. Edmund Burke's Pamphlet, on the Subject of the French Revolution*. Dublin: Printed; London: Reprinted for J. Johnson, 1791. V, 5.
- Christie, Thomas. *Letters on the Revolution of France, and on the New Constitution Established by the National Assembly: Occasioned by the Publications of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, M. P. and Alexander de Calonne, Late Minister of State...* To Which Is Added, an Appendix, Containing Original Papers and Authentic Documents Relative to the Affairs of France. Addressed to Sir John Sinclair, Bart. M. P. Part I. London: J. Johnson, 1791. VIII, 1.
- Dupont [J. L.]. *Answer to the Reflections of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke. With the Original Notes*. London: J. Debrett, 1791. VII, 3.
- Flower, Benjamin. *The French Constitution...* London: G. G. J. & J. Robinson, 1792. XI, 1. (A 501-page commentary on the French Constitution; pp. 477-501 are devoted mainly to attack on Burke.)
- Hamilton, James Edward. *Reflections on the Revolution in France, by the Right Honorable Edmund Burke, Considered; Also, Observations on Mr. Paine's Pam-*

- phlet*. . . . London: J. Johnson, 1791. VII, 1. (Burke and Paine viewed in light of Aristotle's *Politics*. Mostly pro-Burke with few animadversions on Paine.)
- Lofft, Capel. *Remarks on the Letter of the Rt. Hon. Edmund Burke, Concerning the Revolution in France*. . . . London: J. Johnson, 1790. IV, 6.
- [Macaulay, Catharine] *Observations on the Reflections of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, on the Revolution in France, In a Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Stanhope*. London: C. Dilly, 1790. IV, 4.
- Paine, Thomas. *Rights of Man: Being an Answer to Mr. Burke's Attack on the French Revolution*. London: J. Johnson, 1791. V, 3.
- *Rights of Man. Part the Second. Combining Principle and Practice*. Third Edition. London: J. S. Jordan, 1792. X, 4.
- Pigott, Charles. *Strictures on the New Political Tenets of the Rt. Hon. Edmund Burke*. . . . London: J. Ridgway, 1791. IX, 3.
- Price, Richard. *A Discourse on the Love of Our Country*. . . . Fourth Edition. London: Printed by G. Stafford for T. Cadell, 1790. I, 2. (With preface and expanded appendix.)
- Rosibonne, M. *Letter to the Right Honorable Edmund Burke*. London: J. Ridgway, n. d. III, 2. (A disillusioned French revolutionary praises Burke.)
- Rous, George. *A Letter to the Right Honorable Edmund Burke . . . in Reply to His Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs*. London: J. Debrett [1791]. X, 3.
- [———] *Thoughts on Government: Occasioned by Mr. Burke's Reflections, &c. in a Letter to a Friend*. London: J. Debrett, 1790. IV, 3.
- Scott [John]. *A Letter from Major Scott to the Right Honorable Edmund Burke*. London: John Stockdale, 1791. X, 2.
- [———] *A Letter to the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, In Reply to his "Reflections on the Revolution in France, &c."* By a Member of the Revolution Society. London: John Stockdale, 1790. IV, 5.
- Towers, Joseph. *Thoughts on the Commencement of a New Parliament. With an Appendix Containing Remarks on the Letter of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, on the Revolution in France*. London: C. Dilly, 1790. III, 1.
- Tracy [Antoine Louis Claude Destutt, Count de]. *Translation of a Letter from Monsieur de Tracy, Member of the French National Assembly, to Mr. Burke, In Answer to his Remarks on the French Revolution*. London: J. Johnson, 1790. I, 3. (Antedates the *Reflections* and is answer to Burke's speech of Feb. 9, 1790.)
- [Wollstonecraft, Mary] *A Vindication of the Rights of Men*. . . . London: J. Johnson, 1790. IV, 2.
- Woolsey, Robert. *Reflections upon Reflections*. . . . In *Two Letters, to the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, In answer to his Pamphlet*. London: Printed by J. Colerick and sold by W. Stewart, 1790. III, 5.
- PAMPHLETS ATTACKING PAINE
- Anonymous. *A British Freeholder's Address to His Countrymen, on Thomas Paine's Rights of Man*. London: B. White, 1791. II, 6.
- *Defence of the Rights of Man*. . . . London: T. Evans, 1791. II, 4. (An attack on the *Rights of Man* using Paine's own technique of reducing arguments to absurdities.)
- *Definition of a Constitution*. By Thomas Paine. London: J. Debrett, 1791. IX, 4.

- *Letters to Thomas Payne, in Answer to His Late Publication on the Rights of Man.* By a Member of the University of Cambridge. London: J. Pridden [1791]. VII, 6. (Fifteen letters.)
- *Letters to Thomas Paine; In Answer to His Late Publication on The Rights of Man.* . . . Second Edition. London: W. Miller, 1791. VII, 5. (Consists of three letters.)
- *A Letter to Mr. Pain [sic], on His Late Publication.* London: John Stockdale, 1792. X, 5. (Answer to Part II of *Rights of Man*.)
- *A New Friend on an Old Subject.* London: J. F. and C. Rivington, 1791. IX, 1.
- *Notes upon Paine's Rights of Man.* "Foreigners That May Interfere, and Foreigners That May Not Interfere," "The Conspiracy of the Aristocrats Laid Open," "The No Plot of the Democracy," "Monarchy, or Mob-Archy," "Rights upon Rights with Observations upon Observations." London: J. Debrett, 1791. IX, 5.
- *A Rejoinder to Mr. Paine's Pamphlet, Entitled, Rights of Man.* . . . By an Englishman. London: C. and G. Kearsley [1791]. II, 3. (The sub-title, *An Answer to Mr. Burke's Attack on the French Revolution*, is misleading: the exceptions to Burke are slight.)
- *Rights of Citizens; Being an Inquiry into Some of the Consequences of Social Union, and an Examination of Mr. Paine's Principles Touching Government.* London: J. Debrett [1791]. VI, 4.
- *Slight Observations, upon Paine's Pamphlet.* . . . *In Three Letters, from a Gentleman in London, to a Friend in the Country.* London: H. Reynell, 1791. II, 7.
- Hawtrey, Charles. *Various Opinions of the Philosophical Reformers Considered; Particularly Pain's [sic] Rights of Man.* London: John Stockdale, 1792. IX, 2.



## GIFTS

THE gifts of books received by the library during the first half of 1948 are, as is usual, widely varied in subject matter. One of the most outstanding items in the array was purchased with funds contributed by the Friends of the Library: it is a sixteenth-century edition of the *Dance of Death*, *Simolachri, historie, e figure de la morte* (Lyons, 1549) with the famous wood-engravings of Holbein; this copy is interleaved and on the blank leaves are mounted the designs of Wenceslaus Hollar, after Holbein. Another valuable acquisition, a Greek liturgical scroll of the Byzantine empire, was acquired for the library by Mr. and Mrs. James Paton, Jr.

A number of gifts were received in the fields of history and the social sciences, many relating to contemporary affairs. Pamphlets, periodicals, and documents relating to wartime and post-war Germany were received from Mr. David L. Cozart, Jr., and Mr. Willis G. Smith. Professor Paul H. Clyde donated numerous pieces relating to Japan, and Mr. James Mullen eighty leaflets distributed by the Allied forces in the European theatre. Professor Frank T. de Vyver has contributed numerous documents relating to American labor relations and the War Labor Board. Large gifts of books, pamphlets, and current periodicals in various fields have come from Professor and Mrs. H. C. Horack, Professor E. T. Thompson, Mrs. J. A. Robertson, Mr. J. L. Williams, and Dr. C. Sylvester Green.

In the field of religion, books and pamphlets on Mormonism were contributed by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Smith of Salt Lake City and by the Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt. Mr. and Mrs. B. L.

Dicks and Miss Corinne Robinson also made valued contributions on religious subjects. Over one hundred volumes in the field of education were received from Dr. J. Henry Highsmith; and Dr. Frank G. Hall presented a number of titles in zoology, psychology, and related subjects.

In literature and the fine arts, gifts have come from Mr. Arthur Pforzheimer, Professor and Mrs. J. B. Hubbell, Dr. and Mrs. G. S. Eadie, Mr. J. Welch Harriss, Professor Louise Hall, and Professor Frances Brown. In response to our desiderata list, Lady Mander kindly sent from England the first of the "Hogarth Letters," E. M. Forster's *A Letter to Madam Blanchard*. Mr. Webb Garrison of Cameron, South Carolina, continues his generosity to the library, his recent contributions including Brewer's *Character Sketches of Romance, Fiction and the Drama* (New York, 1892, 4 vols.).

Monetary gifts have been received from Mr. and Mrs. James Paton, Jr., Professor F. T. de Vyver, Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Dalton, Mr. James H. Hyde, Miss Mary J. Kennedy, Mrs. Lucille K. Boyden, and Mrs. Ida D. Neuhoff. Mr. James Thornton Gittman has contributed largely to the cost of the bookplate lately designed by Miss Clare Leighton for the Bellamann Dante collection.

F. D. R. *et al.*

THE Duke University Library has long been indebted to Dr. and Mrs. Josiah C. Trent, not only for their many gifts, but also for their abiding interest in the library's affairs. The sum of this indebtedness has lately been substantially increased by their

gift of a Franklin Delano Roosevelt collection. On deposit in the library for some time, this collection consists of more than eighty pieces, including books and pamphlets by or about Roosevelt, pictures, recordings, a letter signed by Roosevelt, and some stamps from his collection. Whatever one's attitude toward the late President—and it is a tribute to the force of the man that the sound of his name still arouses people to bitter controversy—one cannot deny that he was one of the outstanding men of this century and that a collection of his writings and of books about him is a most desirable addition to our library.

Dr. and Mrs. Trent have recently made other gifts in the field of literature, including two additions to the John Steinbeck collection which they presented to the library some years ago. A gift of particular interest is Major Robert Rogers' *Concise Account of North America* (London, 1765). Major Rogers deals briefly with each of the colonies, not excluding North

Carolina, of which he remarks, in part:

About an hundred miles [from the sea] the land rises gradually to the Appalachian mountains, where the soil in some places is very good, and produces plenty of wheat and other grain; the timber being oak, intermixed with pine; they also here raise hemp and flax, and have some fruit. In this part of the province is plenty of wild game, especially deer; and the number of their cattle and swine is very great; some single planters owning a thousand head of horned cattle, which run in the woods all the year round, the calves being marked in the spring, that each may know his own. . . .

The greatest number of inhabitants is in this westerly part of the province, as the soil here is the most fruitful and pleasant. The air here is agreeable enough in winter, but very hot in summer; and the inhabitants are very subject to agues, fevers, cholicks, &c.

The religious persuasions in this province are some of the Episcopalians; but a much greater number of the various sects of Dissenters.

## DESIDERATA

The following list of desiderata requires no lengthy preface. The authors—American novelists of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries—are familiar to us all. Some of them remain in high repute; others have fallen considerably in the graces of the American public. The library now possesses many of their works and will be most grateful for assistance by its friends in the acquisition of the missing titles listed here.

DONN BYRNE

*Blind Raftery and his wife Hilaria.* New York [1924].

*Changeling and other stories.* New York [1923].

*Collected poems.* London, 1934.

*Crusade.* Boston, 1928.

*A daughter of the Medici.* London [1933].

*Destiny bay.* Boston, 1928.

*Field of honor.* New York [1929].

*The foolish matrons.* New York [1920].

*Hangman's house.* New York [1926].

*The hound of Ireland.* New York, 1935.

*The island of youth and other stories.* London [1932].

*O'Malley of Shanganagh.* New York [1925].

*A party of baccarat.* New York [1930].

*Stories without women (and a few with women).* New York, 1915.

*The strangers' banquet.* New York [1919].

*The wind bloweth.* New York, 1922.

*A woman of the Shee.* New York [1932].

JAMES T. FARRELL

*Calico shoes and other stories.* New York [1934].

*Can all this grandeur perish?* New York [1937].

*Guillotine party and other stories.* New York [1935].

WILLIAM FAULKNER

*Idyll in the desert.* New York, 1931.

*The marble faun.* Boston [1924].

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

*All the sad young men.* New York, 1926.

*John Jackson's Arcady.* Boston, 1928.

*Tender is the night.* New York, 1934.

HAMLIN GARLAND

*A pioneer mother.* Chicago, 1922.

*Under the wheel: a modern play in six scenes.* Boston, 1890.

ELLEN GLASGOW

*The freeman and other poems.* New York, 1902.

JULIAN HAWTHORNE

*Another's crime.* New York, 1888.

*Archibald Malmaison.* New York, 1878.

*Bliss Carman, 1861-1929.* Palo Alto, 1929.

*David Poindexter's disappearance and other tales.* New York, 1888.

*A dream and a forgetting.* Chicago and New York [1888].

*Fool of nature.* New York, 1896.

*Garth.* New York, 1877.

*The great bank robbery.* New York [1887].

*Hawthorne reading; an essay.* Cleveland, 1902.

*Humors of the fair.* Chicago, 1893.

*Idolatry.* Boston, 1874.

*John Parmlee's curse.* New York [1886].

*The laughing mill and other stories.* London, 1879.

*Love is a spirit.* New York, 1896.

*Mrs. Gainsborough's diamonds.* New York, 1878.



*Noble blood.* New York, 1885.  
*One of those coincidences and other stories.* New York and London, 1899.  
*Pauline.* New York [1890].  
*The professor's sister.* New York [1883].  
*Sebastian Strome.* New York, 1879.  
*Section 558; or, The fatal letter.* New York [1888].

*Solomon, Columbus, Rhodes and company.* N. P., 1909.

*Spanish America, from the earliest period to the present time.* New York, 1901.

*A tragic mystery.* New York [1887].

*The trial of Gideon and Countess Almar's murder.* New York, 1886.

HENRY WILLIAM HERBERT (Frank Forester)

*The brothers.* New York, 1835. 2 vols.

*The captains of the Roman republic.* New York, 1854.

*The cavaliers of England.* New York, 1852.

*The chevaliers of France.* New York, 1853.

*The complete manual for young sportsmen.* New York, 1856.

*Dermot O'Brien.* New York, 1849.

*Frank Forester and his friends.* London, 1849.

*Guarica: the Carib bride.* Philadelphia, 1844.

*Ingleborough Hall and The lord of the manor.* New York, 1847.

*The innocent witch: a continuation of Ruth Whalley.* Boston, 1845.

*Isabel Graham.* New York, 1848.

*Marmaduke Wyvil.* New York [1843].

*The miller of Martignè.* New York [1847].

*Pierre the partisan.* New York, 1848.

*Poems of "Frank Forester."* New York, 1888.

*The revolt of Boston: a continuation of Ruth Whalley.* Boston, 1845.

*Ringwood the rover.* Philadelphia, 1843.

*The Roman traitor.* New York and Baltimore, 1846. 2 vols.

*Ruth Whalley; or, The fair Puritan.* Boston, 1844.

*The village inn.* New York, 1843.

*Wager of battle.* New York, 1855.

EMERSON HOUGH

*Getting a wrong start.* New York, 1915.

*Maw's vacation.* St. Paul, 1921.

*Out of doors.* New York, 1915.

*The sowing.* Chicago, 1909.

*The story of the cowboy.* New York, 1897.

WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS

*Bride roses.* Boston, 1900.

*Eighty years and after.* [New York] 1921.

*Niagara revisited.* Chicago, 1884.

*Stories of Ohio.* New York, 1897.

WILL JAMES

*All in the day's riding.* New York, 1933.

*Big-enough.* New York, 1931.

*Cow country.* New York, 1927.

*Cowboys north and south.* New York, 1924.

*The dark horse.* New York, 1939.

*The drifting cowboy.* New York. 1925.

*Flint spears.* New York, 1938.

*Home ranch.* New York, 1935.

*Lone cowboy.* New York, 1930.

*Sand.* New York, 1929.

*Scorpion.* New York, 1936.

*Sun up.* New York, 1931.

*The three mustangers.* New York, 1933.

*Uncle Bill.* New York, 1932.

THOMAS A. JANVIER

*The Christmas Kalends of Provence.* New York, 1902.

*An embassy to Provence.* New York, 1893.

*From the south of France.* New York, 1912.

- In the Sargasso Sea.* New York, 1898.  
*Legends of the City of Mexico.* New York, 1910.  
*The women's conquest.* New York, 1953 [1894].

## RING LARDNER

- Bib ballads.* Chicago [1915].  
*The big town.* Indianapolis [1921].  
*Lose with a smile.* New York, 1933.  
*My four weeks in France.* Indianapolis [1918].  
*Own your own home.* Indianapolis [1919].  
*The real dope.* Indianapolis [1919].  
*Regular fellows I have met.* Chicago, 1919.  
*You know me Al.* New York [1916].

## JACK LONDON

- The acorn-planter.* New York, 1916.  
*Theft.* New York, 1910.

## GEORGE BARR McCUTCHEON

- Black is white.* New York, 1914.  
*Books once were men.* New York, 1931.  
*The light that lies.* New York, 1916.

## WILLIAM McFEE

- Born to be hanged.* Gaylordsville, 1930.  
*The gates of the Caribbean.* N. P., 1922.  
*Letters from an ocean tramp.* London, 1908.  
*An ocean tramp.* Garden City, N. Y., 1921.  
*A Port Said miscellany.* Boston [1918].  
*The reflections of Marsyas.* Gaylordsville, 1933.  
*Sailor's bane.* Philadelphia, 1936.  
*Sailor's wisdom.* London [1935].  
*A six-hour shift.* Garden City, N. Y., 1920.  
*Swallowing the anchor.* Garden City, N. Y., 1925.

## SILAS WEIR MITCHELL

- The children's hour.* Philadelphia, 1864.  
*A diplomatic adventure.* New York, 1906.

- The guillotine club and other stories.* New York, 1910.

- Little stories.* New York, 1903.  
*A Madeira party.* New York, 1895.  
*Pearl.* New York, 1906.  
*A venture in 1777.* Philadelphia [1908].  
*A catalogue of the scientific and literary work of S. Weir Mitchell.* [Philadelphia, 1894].

## ROBERT NATHAN

- Autumn.* New York, 1921.  
*A cedar box.* Indianapolis [1929].  
*The concert.* New York, 1940.  
*Jonah.* New York, 1925.  
*Peter Kindred.* New York, 1919.  
*The puppet master.* New York, 1923.  
*Selected poems.* New York, 1935.  
*Youth grows old.* New York, 1922.

## BOOTH TARKINGTON

- Bimbo, the pirate.* New York, 1926.  
*The collector's whatnot.* Boston, 1923.  
*The ghost story.* Cincinnati [1922].  
*The guardian.* New York, 1907.  
*The help each other club.* New York, 1934.  
*How's your health?* New York, 1930.  
*The intimate strangers.* New York, 1921.  
*Little Orvie.* Garden City, N. Y., 1934.  
*Mr. Antonio: a comedy in four acts.* New York, 1935.  
*Penrod and Sam.* Garden City, N. Y., 1916.  
*Station YYYY.* New York, 1927.  
*The travelers.* New York, 1927.  
*The trysting place.* Cincinnati [1923].  
*The wren.* New York, 1922.

## MAURICE THOMPSON

- A banker of Bankersville.* New York [1886].  
*Lincoln's grave.* Cambridge and Chicago, 1894.  
*A red-headed family.* New York [1885].

*Sweetheart Manette*. Philadelphia [1894].  
*Sylvan secrets*. New York, 1887.

JOHN TOWNSEND TROWBRIDGE

*The adventures of David Vane and David Crane*. Boston [1889].  
*Biding his time*. Boston [1880].  
*Bound in honor*. Boston, 1878.  
*Burrcliff*. Boston, 1854.  
*A chance for himself*. Boston, 1872.  
*Coupon bonds*. Boston, 1866.  
*Cudjo's cave*. Boston, 1864.  
*The deserted family*. Boston, 1856[?].  
*Doing his best*. Boston, 1873.  
*Father Brighthopes*. Boston, 1853.  
*His own master*. Boston, 1878.  
*A home idyll and other poems*. Boston, 1881.  
*Ironthorpe: the pioneer preacher*. Boston, 1855.  
*Jack Hazard and his fortunes*. Boston, 1871.  
*The kelp-gatherers*. Boston, 1891.

*Lawrence's adventures*. Boston, 1871.  
*The little master*. Boston, 1887.  
*The lost earl and other poems*. Boston [1888].  
*The lottery ticket*. Boston, 1896.  
*The old battle-ground*. New York, 1860.  
*Poetical works*. Boston, 1903.  
*The prize cup*. New York, 1896.  
*A question of damages*. Boston, 1897.  
*The rebel*. Boston, 1864.  
*The vagabonds and other poems*. Boston, 1869.  
*The young surveyor*. Boston, 1875.

OWEN WISTER

*The dragon of Wantley*. Philadelphia, 1892.  
*Indispensable information for infants*. New York, 1921.  
*The Jimmyjohn boss*. New York, 1900.  
*The new Swiss family Robinson*. Cambridge, 1882.



## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY DINNER

THE annual dinner meeting of the Friends of the Library was held on the evening of 26 February in the Union Ballroom. About one hundred and fifty members were present. Professor Newman I. White presided over the meeting, which was opened by an invocation pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Ehlhardt.

At the conclusion of the dinner, Professor White introduced Dr. B. E. Powell, University Librarian, who spoke briefly on gifts received by the library during the past year and on the addition to the library building under construction. He mentioned a few of the many services by which friends could assist the library and asked those present to lend their aid in extending the membership of the organization of Friends.

Professor C. S. Sydnor then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. William Warren Sweet, Professor of the History of American Christianity at the University of Chicago. Dr. Sweet's address, entitled "A Neglected Phase in American History," dealt with the development of the field of church history in American universities. With many an enjoyable anecdote he told how he was summoned to take the first professorship of American religious history at the University of Chicago. He described the work of other scholars in the field at that time and pointed out the subsequent accomplishments of their students and his own in earning acceptance for their subject among the proponents of more firmly established forms of historical study.

Professor White expressed to Dr. Sweet the thanks of the company for his interesting talk and pronounced the meeting adjourned. Many of the guests then visited an exhibition, displayed in an adjoining room, which consisted of notable gifts presented to the library during 1947.

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

THE second annual Friends of the Library contest for student book-collectors was carried on during April. Five undergraduate students entered the competition: Miss Rebecca Burrum, '50, Mr. Robert D. Loomis, '49, Mr. Thomas K. Bullock, '48, Mr. Colbert Smith, '49, Mr. Fred R. Wagner, '48. Three of the collections were literary in character: Mr. Loomis submitted books in the field of contemporary literature; Mr. Smith's subject was the novel, and Mr. Wagner's drama and the modern theater. Mr. Bullock, winner of the contest, submitted an excellent collection on the early history of the United States.

After the collections had been displayed for some time in the University Library, the judges—Professor Lewis Patton, Professor Paul H. Clyde, and Miss Ellen Frey (acting for Mrs. Josiah C. Trent)—interviewed the contestants on 20 April. On 29 April a meeting of the collectors was held, at which Dr. B. E. Powell presented the men's award to Mr. Bullock; Mr. Wagner received honorable mention. The women's prize was not awarded this year.

At this meeting Professor Patton spoke briefly on the subject of book-collecting, making a number of useful suggestions. He remarked on the need for a well-stocked secondhand book-

store near the campus, where faculty and students alike would find a stimulus to more active collecting. Miss Gertrude Merritt also addressed the students, offering them the assistance of the library's order section and distributing to them copies of a list of second-hand book dealers in general and special fields.

Two other meetings of the book-collectors were held during the spring. On 16 March Professor A. B. Ferguson addressed the group on the subject of bookbinding, describing the various techniques of hand-binding and the myriad agonizing problems which beset the beginner. He displayed several examples of his own fine work and a few of the basic tools of the binder. On 3 May several members of the group went to Chapel Hill where Professor Raymond Adams courteously displayed to them his extensive collection of the writings of Henry David Thoreau.

### EXHIBITIONS

**D**URING the spring the library has held several interesting exhibitions. The February display was drawn from the library's growing collection of Renaissance emblem books and iconologies. Professor Allan H. Gilbert made several of his own fine emblem books available for this exhibit. He also lent valuable items, as did Dean Roberta Brinkley, for an exhibition of early editions of Dante, Ariosto, Milton, and Warner, shown in the Woman's College Library during the Renaissance meeting early in February.

During March a large collection of knives, gathered throughout the world, was lent to the library by Professor

Weston LaBarre. Specimens of modern military knives appeared side by side with a Renaissance dagger, intricate Chinese pocket knives, primitive South American and African weapons, and the ornate knives of Singhalese noblemen. During this month, also, photographs of historic New England scenes made by the Maynard Workshop of Waban, Massachusetts, were displayed in the Rare Book Room. April saw exhibitions of materials on the World Federalist movement and of the collections submitted in the contest for student book-collectors.

In May an exhibition from the Gustave Lanson collection, acquired by Duke in 1927, was placed on display. With the limited space at hand, we could not hope to show the full scope of this great collection, which was planned to include the writings of all important French authors from the fifteenth to the twentieth centuries, together with the most useful critical works upon them. Emphasis in the exhibition was therefore placed on the eighteenth century, Lanson's own principal field of interest, and many valuable books of this period were shown, including first and early editions of Rousseau, Voltaire, and Montesquieu. Earlier and later periods of French literature were also touched on, the nineteenth and twentieth centuries being represented by a group of volumes inscribed to Lanson by the authors, among them Duhamel, Maeterlinck, Valéry, Rolland, Coppée, and Romain. A number of Lanson's own publications were included to show the relationship between the scholar's writings and his splendid library.

Future exhibitions will include a display of Utopian literature, under the



sponsorship of Professor Negley, a *Life* magazine atomic energy exhibit in October, and "The Fifty Books of the Year 1948" in March.

### ACQUISITIONS

FOR some years *Library Notes* has carried no mention of outstanding books acquired by the library, and it is high time to review briefly the notable items added to the collection during this time.

The classics may lead the way. Numerous Aldine and Elzevier editions have been acquired, of such authors as Lucretius, Caesar, Livy, Salust, Herodotus, Terence, Tacitus, and Virgil. Of Seneca we have acquired the *Tragœdiæ* (Amsterdam, Pluymer, 1662) and Lodge's translation of the *Workes* (London, 1614), of Homer the Foulis Press edition (Glasgow, 1756-1758, 2 vols.). Ovid is represented by two Elzeviers—*Opera* (1629) and *Operum editio nova* (1659-1661, 3 vols.)—and by two English translations of the seventeenth century. Of Cicero, acquisitions include the Antwerp, 1586, edition of *De officiis*, the Elzevier *Opera* in nine volumes (Leyden, 1642), and *Epistolæ ad T. Pomp. Atticum, ad M. Brutum . . .* (Paris [1531]). On Roman topography and antiquities two recent purchases are worthy of note: Calvi's *Antiqua urbis Romæ cum regionibus simulachrum* (Rome, 1532) and the *Topographia antiquæ Romæ* (Lyons, 1534) of Marlianus.

In later European literature important acquisitions include several additions to the Dante collection—*L'amoroso convivio* (Venice, 1531) and the Venice 1493 and 1507 editions of the *Divina Commedia*, as well as the None-

such Press edition (London, 1928). Two sixteenth-century editions of *Orlando Furioso* have been added and also Ariosto's *Cinque canti di un nuovo libro* (Florence, 1546). The library's collection of Italian literature has been greatly augmented lately by the purchase of the library of the scholar Guido Manzoni of Florence, an acquisition which will be described more fully in a future number of *Library Notes*. The collection of emblem literature has been increased to more than a hundred titles. Two interesting volumes on witchcraft have been purchased, Guazzo's *Compendium Maleficarum* (Milan, 1626) and the *Malleus Maleficarum* (Nuremburg, 1519) of Henricus Institoris.

In English literature many valuable items have been acquired. The first collected edition of the works of Sir Thomas More (Basel, 1563) is present in a fine copy. For the seventeenth century, acquisitions include first editions of Dryden and Donne, Suckling's *Works* (1696), Lovelace's *Lucasta* (1659), Hobbes' *Leviathan* (1651). Notable additions to the eighteenth-century collection are the Strawberry Hill printing of Gray's *Odes* (1757) and original numbers I-DLV of *The Spectator*. A number of items have been added to the Byron and Coleridge collections, including the Kelmscott Coleridge (1896). A manuscript of Rossetti's "The White Ship," recently purchased, is described by Professor Baum elsewhere in this issue. In American literature we may mention the purchase of the Ernest R. Eaton collection of William Cullen Bryant; several of the compilations of Henry S. Saunders of Toronto have been added to the Whitman collection.



In American history the most outstanding acquisitions are the large numbers of books and manuscripts acquired yearly through the Flowers Collection fund. Manuscript collections of interest include the papers (1799-1934) of Robert Leslie, tobacconist, which deal with many phases of the tobacco industry, and the letters and papers of James H. Whitty of Richmond, a Poe scholar whose correspondence contains much valuable information on the poet. Students of American anthropology will find useful the monumental compilation of E. S. Curtis on *The North American Indian* (1907-1930, 20 vols.) with its twenty accompanying portfolios of plates.

Valuable acquisitions in the field of religion include a Greek New Testament manuscript of the mid-twelfth century, a group of William Penn pamphlets, a number of first and early editions of Luther, Erasmus, and Melancthon, and a volume of Church of Scotland pamphlets, including the Westminster Assembly of Divines' *Humble advice . . . concerning a larger and a shorter catechisme* (Edinburgh, 1647).

Of many valuable acquisitions in the field of fine arts we may mention a

file of *Kokka* (661 numbers), the illustrated monthly journal of the fine and applied arts of Japan and other eastern countries, and Max Geisberg's compilation of 1600 facsimiles of early sixteenth-century German wood-engravings.

### ROBERT FROST

ON 7 June 1948, at the commencement of Duke University, the degree of Doctor of Literature was conferred upon the distinguished American poet Robert Frost. For some years Mr. Frost has been a life-member of the Friends of Duke University Library, and it is with great pleasure that we see him joined to the University by yet another tie. The citation pronounced at the commencement exercises read as follows:

Robert Frost, dean of American poets, four times over recipient of the Pulitzer Prize. Penetrating spokesman for mankind in our deeper experiences of life. Interpreter of our common ways, creator of uncommon verse. Vigor, courage, and manful mastery of speech have placed in his debt all men who may absorb these qualities from his enduring verse.

## NEWMAN IVEY WHITE

1892-1948

## JOSIAH CHARLES TRENT

1914-1948

The Friends of Duke University Library record with sadness the loss of two members of the Executive Committee, whose deaths occurred as this issue of *Library Notes* was being prepared for the press.

PROFESSOR NEWMAN IVEY WHITE died on December 6 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he was spending part of a sabbatical leave. Professor White, Chairman of the Department of English of Duke University, had always been a friend of the Library, and had long taken active interest in the organization. He had been a member of the Executive Committee since the reactivation of the Friends at the end of the war in 1945, and had also served since that time on the Program Committee. He had enriched the Library's collections with many gifts as well as by his scholarly and interested advice, and was elected to life membership in 1947 in recognition of his exceptional contributions and services.

DR. JOSIAH CHARLES TRENT, Assistant Professor of Surgery in the School of Medicine, died in Durham on December 10. He had been a Friend of the Library since his association with the University in 1939. When an Executive Committee of the Friends was organized in 1942, Dr. Trent was appointed to that Committee and served on it until his death. His friendly and sympathetic interest in all aspects of the development of the libraries was unfailing. The Trent Collection, a joint gift in 1943 from Dr. and Mrs. Trent in honor of their daughters, gave to the Library one of the notable Whitman collections of the world. Other gifts came continually to the Library from this generous Friend, who was elected a life member on October 5, 1945.





# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 21

January 1949

## THE MUSIC COLLECTION OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

KATHI MEYER-BAER\*

THE music collection of the Duke University Library, now a part of the Woman's College Library, contains many rare and valuable editions, and it is the purpose of this paper briefly to survey the Library's holdings to make these treasures known more widely among those outside the Department of Aesthetics, Art, and Music. The collection was started only eleven years ago, and it is astonishing how expertly it has been assembled to fill the needs of the teachers as well as of the college students. The credit for this accomplishment should go principally to Edward Broadhead, former organist of the University Chapel (1933-1944) and instructor in music, who was responsible for much of the selection and recommendation of materials for purchase.

As it should be in every college library, the music collection is evenly divided and distributed, so that half is actual music, or "scores," and the re-

\* Dr. Meyer-Baer, distinguished German musicologist and bibliographer, spent several weeks on the campus last fall at the invitation of the Library, where she made a thorough study of the music collection and of its organization. At the request of the editors, she has prepared this brief evaluation of our music collection.

mainder is again about equally divided into books on the history of music and books on the theory of music—that is, the art of composing and the technique of performance and appreciation.

Among the scores (which here means all copies of printed music, including those properly called "scores," i.e., the representation of music for several or many performers with the parts on the same page, one above the other), are a number of the costly and rare "Gesamtausgaben,"—complete works, or editions in serial publications. There are, for instance, the collected works of Johann Sebastian Bach in the new reprint by Edwards Brothers in Ann Arbor of the Bach Gesellschaft edition (46v.), and there will soon be the corresponding complete edition of the works of Beethoven. Other important monuments are the complete editions of the works of Purcell (24v., London, 1878-1928) and of Monteverdi (16v., Asolo, 1926-42), both great assets. Among the serial publications we have the *Istituzioni e Monumenti dell'Arte Musicale Italiana* (Milan, 1931- ), the splendid edition of early Italian music, and Fellowes' *The English Mad-*

*rigal School* (36v., London, 1913-24), the valuable collection of English part songs of the 16th and 17th centuries. There is the collection of organ music by Guilmant (*Archives des Maîtres de l'Orgue* . . . 10v., Leipzig, n.d.), with specimens by all the great representatives who have written for this instrument. There is also the valuable *Tudor Church Music* (10v., London, 1923-29), containing works by the great composers Byrd, Tallis, Gibbons, and others.

Besides these larger sets we find items of the important modern editions of old manuscript music, in facsimile or transcribed in modern notation. As we want to mention them in connection with a specific problem later, we will proceed to the shelves which hold the music of the last century, of the classic and romantic period. Here also the selection has been made to correspond to the interests and abilities of the students by whom the collection will be used. Thus we find most of the opera repertoire in piano scores, that is, in editions which carry the full parts of the singers with the parts of the orchestra condensed into an arrangement for piano so that it can be studied by the average student. We find the instrumental music for orchestra on the shelves labelled "symphonies," containing beside the actual symphonies orchestral suites, serenatas, etc. On the following shelves are the concertos, for orchestra with a solo instrument; then the chamber music; and finally the music for those instruments which usually are played by themselves, such as

piano and organ.

In these sections we see represented most of the important works of old and modern masters, of Beethoven and Mozart, of Schubert and Chopin, of Debussy and Stravinsky. Of works for orchestra, the full scores are principally in the miniature editions often used today for all study purposes. The concertos are generally—beside the editions in miniature score—arranged for piano and the solo instrument, for the use of students of the solo part. Most of the chamber music is here in scores as well as in parts, so that the material is at hand both for the player and for one who wishes to study the composition or to follow it during a performance. Among the piano music we might mention the complete works of Chopin, of Brahms, the sonatas of Beethoven and Mozart, and the important works of Schumann.

There are many editions of choral music—old and modern: Handel's oratorios in piano scores, further collections as they are published by choral societies or music publishing houses, such as the collection of works performed by the Desoff Choir or the collection of Christmas chorals and anthems published by Schirmer.

Looking now over the books about music, we turn to the group on "aesthetics" to find the recent writings of American scholars, such as Warren D. Allen's *Philosophies of Music History* (New York, 1939) and Glen Haydon's *Introduction to Musicology* (New York, 1941), as well as some of the writings of such important European

musicians as Busoni and Debussy. We find also the important books on criticism, the analyses of works of the classic and modern schools. The chief works on performance, on the technique of single instruments as well as on the technique of the voice and of the orchestra, are here, and the textbooks on composition and the so-called theory of music. High standards of selection are immediately evident and particularly praiseworthy in this field, where the too popular and ephemeral have been carefully avoided.

The shelves containing works on the history of music start with the standard works of general history. It should be mentioned that the collection has, as well as the standard modern works, such rare and older books as Hawkins (*A General History of the Science and Practice of Music*. 2v., London, 1853) and Burney (*A General History of Music . . .* [London, 1776-89] 2v., New York, 1935). Burney's *Tours* are also here (Ed. 2. 3v., London, 1773-75), and the *Encyclopédie de la Musique*, edited by Lavignac (11v., Paris, 1913-31). In the section of the history of church music we have the very rare *De Cantu et Musica Sacra* (2v., St. Blaise, 1774) by the Abbot Gerbert, with its informative plates.

In all of these groups we find some rare—old or new—books and editions; in the section of local histories the *Reglement pour l'Opéra de Paris* by Meusnier de Querlon, printed at Paris in 1743, with the facetious imprint, "À Utopie, chez Thomas Morus," and among the books on theory d'Alem-

bert's famous *Éléments de Musique* (Lyons, 1766). There is also a splendid Italian manuscript in large folio, a Gradual on vellum from the early quattrocento, with beautiful hand-painted initials in blue and red, and the original leather binding with straps and buckles. Of course, there are a few important titles in all these subdivisions which members of the faculty will wish to add. The important consideration is that the cornerstones are laid and the framework is sound; the small gaps can easily be filled.

To illustrate the soundness and usefulness of the collection, let us consider the case of a professor assembling the materials for his lectures. For instance, the Department of Aesthetics, Art, and Music now offers a course in music history, which is currently dealing with the music of the middle ages. For this subject the professor would find first several copies of the modern standard history by Gustave Reese, *Music in the Middle Ages* (New York, 1940), with its amazing bibliography. But also he would have much additional material in the two facsimile and transcribed (modern notation) editions of the important 14th century troubadour manuscripts in the Bibliothèque Nationale, *Le Manuscrit du Roi* (2v., Philadelphia, 1938), and *Le Chansonnier Cangé* (2v., Paris, 1927), both edited by Jean Beck, the eminent French scholar who taught at the University of Pennsylvania. Likewise available is Beck's history of the music of the troubadours (*La Musique des Troubadours*. Paris, 1928), the 14th century musicians who



contributed the courtly love songs and the romantic ballads in forms which persist to this day. A more technical work is Johannes Wolf's *Geschichte der Mensural-Notation* (3v., Leipzig, 1904), which contains numerous transcribed examples of mediaeval music. A standard work is the *Histoire de l'Harmonie au Moyen Âge* of Coussemaker; this important study was published in Paris in 1852, and describes early polyphonic composition, that is, the beginning of the art of writing music for many voices. Also at hand are the four volumes of *Mélanges de Musicologie Critique* (Paris, 1900-05), a collection which contains such important monuments of mediaeval composed music as the *Proses* (free additions to liturgical music) of Adam de St. Victor, and the *Lais et Descorts Français du 13me Siècle*. In addition to the important treatise on mediaeval music by Pierre Aubry (*La Musicologie Médiévale*), the *Mélanges* contains also his collection, *Les Plus Anciens Monuments de la Musique Française*. The Library also has an edition by Jean Beck of *Robin et Marion*, the celebrated pastoral play written and composed by the hunchback, Adam de la Halle. Source material relating to the "Minnesang," the German music which is parallel to the French troubadour music, is to be found in the beautiful facsimile edition of the manuscripts containing the *Locheimer Liederbuch* and the *Fundamentum Organisandi* of the blind musician Conrad Paumann, one of the very earliest documents (1452) of instrumental composed music.

These are some of the more important works on music of the period of the middle ages. To be complete we should have to list more of the compendiums and technical manuals. The subject of mediaeval music was chosen at random and as an example we could have selected just as well the music of the 15th century or some later period, and the professor would have been able to find enough material for demonstrations in his lectures.

A very great asset is the fact that the collection has sets of the important musical periodicals in the English language, such as the *Music Review*, *Music and Letters*, the *Musical Quarterly*, and the very interesting publications of the English Folk Dance and Song Society. In most cases the sets are complete. And it should be mentioned that the Department has, in addition to the Library materials, practical playing editions of music for the use of its band, orchestra, and chamber orchestra, and also a collection of records; for teaching purposes and for performance, these supplement the Library collection.

There is only one group as a whole which is scanty; this is the section of music bibliography, and the reader is referred here to the appended desiderata list for some of the important titles now missing from the collection. These books would be a great help to teachers, students, and librarians alike. There are also some gaps we should like to see filled in the section of instrumental music of the 17th and 18th centuries. The Library has some editions of music of this period, such as

Bach's *Musical Offering* and his *Art of the Fugue*; but there have been many modern editions of works by Purcell and others, and practical editions by several European publishers of orchestral and chamber music for college use which would be useful. One important further task should be to complete the acquisition of the Austrian monument, *Denkmäler der Tonkunst in Österreich*; some volumes of this set are now in the collection, but it would be worth while to have it complete as the volumes contain editions of important works from different periods which provide good illustrations of many forms and styles.

The building up and enlarging of the Library's collection will depend, of course, to some extent on the interests of the individual members of the Department. The present teacher of theory of music, Mr. Klenz, has made special studies in Baroque music and the development of the sonata form; he will be especially interested in the instrumental music of the 17th and 18th centuries and will try to assemble as much material as possible. Mrs. Mueller's work in the field of chamber music will lead to the strengthening of this important field, while the interest of the Department as a whole in modern music will naturally be revealed in acquisitions of contemporary music.

The development of a specialty gives added distinction and value to any collection. With the growth of the Department of Aesthetics, Art, and Music,

special periods and styles will come to be emphasized in lectures, studies, and research. The Library, in its buying, will follow these trends as well as those which can support its special resources in other subject fields. A most natural field would be, of course, the popular music of the South, which has contributed important elements to contemporary American music.

## DESIDERATA

ABER, ADOLF. *Handbuch der Musikliteratur in Systematisch-Chronologischer Anordnung*. Leipzig, 1922.

ALTMANN, WILHELM. *Kammermusik-Katalog; ein Verzeichnis von seit 1841 veröffentlichten Kammermusik-Werken* . . . 4. aufl. Leipzig, 1931; [and] *Nachtrag*. Leipzig, 1936.

BAKER, THEODORE. *Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians*. Ed. 4. New York, 1940.

BLOM, ERIC. *A General Index to Modern Musical Literature in the English Language* . . . London, 1927.

*Handbuch der Musikwissenschaft*; hrsg. von Ernst Bücken. 10v. Leipzig, 1928-34. (Reprinted: New York, 1948.)

KÖCHEL, LUDWIG VON. *Chronologisch-Thematisches Verzeichnis Sämtlicher Tonwerke von Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*. 3. aufl. . . mit einem Supplement . . . von Alfred Einstein. Ann Arbor, 1947.

TOTTMANN, ALBERT KARL. *Führer durch die Violin-Literatur* . . . 4. aufl., von Wilhelm Altmann. Leipzig, 1934.

WOLF, JOHANNES. *Handbuch der Notationskunde*. 2v. Leipzig, 1913-19.

## EARLY ENGLISH PERIODICALS IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

A. S. LIMOUZE\*

AN adequate collection of early English newspapers and magazines provides a source without rival for information about the day-to-day lives and opinions of Englishmen from the time of the settling of the Plymouth colony to the years of the American Revolution. In consequence, additions to a collection of such periodicals rank high on the list of desiderata of every university library. Genuinely strong holdings in the field are rare, only three libraries in America having collections that can be considered large. Obviously the newspaper and magazine, because of their ephemeral nature, have not survived in large numbers, and original copies of early journalistic efforts are rarely come by. A bound volume of an early newspaper occasionally turns up, but all but the most fortunate libraries must depend on later editions and photographic reproductions in building up respectable collections of these materials.

Like the majority of libraries, Duke University Library is far from being rich in these important materials and is constantly seeking to fill gaps in its files. A check of the Library's holdings of fifty significant early periodicals reveals some valuable accessions and some regrettable deficiencies. Outstanding acquisitions include complete files

of two journals which are the backbone of periodical research in the eighteenth century, *The Gentleman's Magazine* (founded 1731) and *The London Magazine* (founded 1732). The Duke file of Leslie's *Rehearsal* (1704-1709), an early Tory journal attacking Defoe's *Review* (which Duke has in reprint edition) and John Tutchin's *Observer*, is complete in the original issues, except for the final number which some painstaking reader of an earlier day has copied out in neat longhand. *Terrae Filius* (1721), Nicholas Amhurst's periodical revenge for expulsion from Oxford, is represented in a reprint of 1726. Of Addison and Steele's *The Spectator*, greatest of all the essay periodicals, Duke has the first 555 numbers (March 1, 1711-December 6, 1712) in original issues, thus lacking only the 80 numbers published during its revival from June to December, 1714, and has several early reprints of the entire journal as well. The *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society (1665 on) are also completely represented.

Outstanding titles lacking from the Duke collection, or only partially represented there, include the following: *The Athenian Gazette* (1690/91-1697).

Edited chiefly by the eccentric John Dunton, who once packed his books and came to America to exploit the book-market in this country, this journal was perhaps the first question-and-answer sheet, solving all its readers' problems. Its tremendous popularity, proved by the

\* Dr. Limouze, who holds the Ph.D. degree from Duke University, is a member of the English Department of New York State Maritime Academy, Fort Schuyler, New York.



number of its imitators, indicates that as early as 1690 journalism had discovered the attractions of a "Believe it or not" column. Duke has the volumes for 1691-1693, nine of the twenty published, and also two early eighteenth-century editions of a collection of many of its old questions and answers, called *The Athenian Oracle*.

*Common Sense* (1737-1743). Lord Chesterfield was among the contributors to this Tory journal, of which Duke has a reprint of the 1738-1739 volumes only.

*The Craftsman* (1726-1747). A political associate of *Common Sense*, this journal devoted itself zealously to attacking the policies of Robert Walpole. Duke has a reprint of the 1731-1747 volumes, but no original issues.

*The Daily Courant* (1702-1735). Microfilms of this rare newspaper, the first daily paper in English, should be a part of every university library.

*The Examiner* (1710-1714). Jonathan Swift helped found this journal in 1710 to defend the administration of Oxford and Bolingbroke. Duke has the 1710-1711 volumes only.

*The Intelligencer* (1728-1729). This essay-periodical, written by Jonathan Swift and friends, is a particularly unfortunate lack. In its pages, Swift made many protests against English mistreatment of the Irish, and here also he reviewed Gay's *Beggar's Opera*.

*The Political State of Great Britain* (1711-1740). This monthly review of current events, compiled by Abel Boyer, is an important research tool. Duke has the volumes for 1711-1723, 1736, and part of that for 1739.

The early weeklies of the Civil War and Commonwealth period. These, the first of English periodicals, could never be

acquired in any great number, but representative items—numbers, for example, of the *Kingdomes Weekly Intelligencer* (1643-1649)—can be bought occasionally. The many "Mercurii" should be well represented. The title *Mercurius* was an early favorite, as can be seen by this sampling (any or all of which would be welcome additions to the Library): *Mercurius Academicus* (1648), *Mercurius Anglicus* (1648), *Mercurius anti-Britannicus* (1645), *Mercurius anti-Melancholicus* (1647), *Mercurius Domesticus* (1648), *Mercurius Fumigosus* (1654-1655, 1660), *Mercurius Insanus Insanissimus* (1648), *Mercurius Poeticus* (1660), *Mercurius anti-Mercurius* (1648). Most of these early "Weekly Intelligencers" and "Mercurii" were more nearly pamphlets than newspapers or journals. Examples would do much to enable the student to learn at first hand the earliest stages through which the periodical press passed.

Still other titles which should be represented with more or less completeness in the Duke Library are the following: Arthur Murphy's *The Auditor* (1762-1763); *The British Apollo; or, Curious Amusements for the Ingenious* (1708-1711); Smollett's *The Briton* (1762-1763); Theobald's *The Censor* (1715, 1717); *The Female Tatler* (1709-1710); Ambrose Philips' *The Freethinker* (1718-1721), of which Duke has a reprint of one volume only; *The Lay Monk* (1713-1714); *The Literary Magazine; or, Universal Review* (1756-1758), possibly edited by Samuel Johnson; the *Monthly Catalogue* of B. Lintot (1714-1715) and that of J. Wilford (1723-1730); John Oldmixon's *The Muses Mercury; or, The Monthly Miscellany* (1707-1708); Tutchin's *The Observator* (1702-1712);

*The Oxford Gazette*, continued as *London Gazette* (1665 on); *Pasquin* (1772-1724); *The Plain Dealer* (1724-1725); *The Post Boy, with Foreign and Domes-tick News* (1695-1735); *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure* (1747 on); *The Universal Spectator* (1728-1746); *Read's Weekly Journal; or, British Gazetteer* (1715-1761); and *The Whitehall Evening Post* (1718-1800?), founded by Daniel Defoe.

The Duke University Library's long-term policy for building up its periodical holdings will eventually bring about the addition of many valuable titles to the present collection, in original issues, reprints, or microphotographs. The process can be greatly speeded if interested Friends of the Library will lend support and assistance in strengthening this important part of the Library's resources.





Admit the Bearer  
Friend to the Emerson  
Lecture.

R.W. Emerson

Nathaniel Hawthorne,

From the Author.

Nov. 6, 1860.

CONDUCT OF LIFE.





# NOTED EMERSON COLLECTION COMES TO DUKE

CLARENCE GOHDES

THE entire collection of Emersoniana gathered together over the years by the noted bibliophile Carroll A. Wilson, one of the departed saints among collectors of Americana, has come into our Library as a result of recent purchase. The material not only gives us one of the most desirable groups of publications by an author deemed by many critics to be the chief writer of the United States, but also supplements the distinguished Whitman materials reposing on our shelves in the Trent Collection, for the relationship of Emerson and Whitman was one of master and disciple. In the 1856 edition of *Leaves of Grass*, Whitman wrote to Emerson, "Master, these shores you have found."

The collection boasts a complete set of first editions of all the books by Emerson, plus the English editions which for one reason or another are valued by collectors, as well as a goodly supply of the separates of individual orations or essays. A large number of these items are copies inscribed by the author to various friends, among them Edmund Hosmer, Elizabeth Hoar, William H. Furness, Charles Eliot Norton, Edwin Arnold, and Coventry Patmore. A show-piece among the presentation copies is *The Conduct of Life* (1860), which bears on its half-title "Nathaniel Hawthorne, from the Author, Nov. 6, 1860." This volume gives the appearance of having been read frequently,

which is more than one can say of the Hawthorne books presented to Emerson; it is also sparsely annotated—but not, alas, in Hawthorne's own hand. A connection with another giant among the authors of an older day in New England is established by the copy of *Fortune of the Republic* (1878), which once belonged to John Greenleaf Whittier. The first book by Emerson, the little, rhapsodic *Nature* (1836), appears in a fine copy in the original blue cloth with the gold stamping still brilliant; and the most important of all his volumes, *Essays*, the first series (1841), could scarcely be matched in its superb condition.

Inserted in a number of the books are various autograph letters, some of them addressed to most interesting people—for example, Dr. John Chapman, friend, and perhaps lover, of George Eliot, and Wendell Phillips, the renowned orator. A few of the English imprints are of extreme rarity in American collections, and there is a copy of each and every one that is known to have been, or might have been, published prior to the first American edition. One of these, *Poems* (1846), bristles with errors, for Emerson sent across the Atlantic his manuscript, and never saw a set of proofs. The most amusing "howler" is the reading "mouse" for "moose"—a not inconsiderable misreading, one would say.

Among other items of unusual interest or value is the program of the Boston Latin School exercises for August 25, 1815, a broadside which announces the twelve-year-old Ralph Waldo as the author and reader of a poem. There is a copy of *The Offering for 1829*, in which Emerson made his debut as a contributor to an "Annual," and there is a set of page proofs of part of the second edition of the renowned *Phi Beta Kappa Oration* (1837). One of the leaflets in the collection is inscribed to James Russell Lowell, and also bears that writer's endorsement. Periodicals in which Emerson had a special interest as contrib-

utor, such as the *Boston Dial*, the *Cincinnati Dial*, and the *Western Messenger*, are also represented. There is even a ticket of admission to one of Emerson's lectures, made out in the hand of the lecturer and signed by him.

The collection as a whole is of the utmost interest to both collectors and scholars, and will no doubt inspire research in Emerson in the same fashion that the Trent Collection has already enlivened scholarly activities in connection with Whitman. It adds greatly to our holdings in the field of American literature, an area in which our Library is exceptionally well fortified.

Ed. note: The Emerson collection is now on exhibition in the Library, and may be seen through the month of February.

# EXTENDING THE LIBRARY'S RESOURCES THROUGH INTER-LIBRARY COOPERATION AND PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTION:

## *A Note of Appreciation*

MERLE M. BEVINGTON

IMPROVED photographic techniques and increasingly close cooperation among libraries have in the past few years made it easy to have available exact texts of materials that formerly would have required expensive, time-wasting travel and search. My experience in getting such materials has been so happy that I am writing about it as an illustration of one or two of the ways in which libraries share and extend their holdings to the advantage of scholars and students.

Some time ago I had need to study the earliest published prose work of Matthew Arnold, a pamphlet which in 1859 he had printed and offered for sale at one shilling—though likely few were sold—on *England and the Italian Question*. The little book, which has never been reprinted, is interesting because it was Arnold's one incursion into political writing; and it is extremely rare. The one copy I knew of in America was in the Widener Library at Harvard University. At the request of our Library, the Widener Library furnished a microfilm of the forty-five page pamphlet. On examining it, I found that the original was an interesting association copy, one which Arnold's close friend Arthur Hugh Clough had sent to *his* friend Charles

Eliot Norton in America. Clough had not even enclosed the pamphlet in a wrapper; he had simply set a seal over the open edges, put the address, his signature, and a postage stamp on the back paper cover, and sent it off by mail packet from Liverpool. The photographic division of our Library made beautifully clear prints of the pages, "blown up" from the microfilm to pamphlet size. We shall now be able to mount the prints and bind them into a volume which will be, for any curious or scholarly reader's purpose, a duplicate of the rare book at Harvard.

Ordinarily, of course, one does not go to the trouble and expense of making prints from microfilm, which can be read quite satisfactorily through projectors. For instance, I have been using one roll of film, obtained by the Library from the British Museum, which contains the complete texts of ten separate works, ranging from pamphlets to good-sized books. This film is primarily of interest to me in my own research, but it is catalogued and available to anyone of similar interests.

A somewhat different kind of reproduction of more general interest is shown in a recent acquisition that came out of my need to see early reviews of Jane Austen's novels. I discovered that



of the ten known reviews published contemporary with the novels, only three are to be found in our periodical collection (and ours is a good collection). Within a very short time the Library got from the Yale University Library photostatic copies of all the other reviews. We shall be able to mount and bind these into a volume, perhaps including with them copies of the reviews we already had, and thus have available in one cover all that was said in the public prints about Jane Austen in her time.

One final illustration of the friendly cooperation of university libraries. When recently I wrote to the Cornell University Library asking for information to be found in a rare *Catalogue of the Library of William Wordsworth*, the reply not only gave the information but also generously offered to make a photostatic copy of the catalogue. Our Library placed an order, and thus we shall have a duplicate of a document likely to be of use to several scholars and yet not enough in demand to warrant reprinting.

## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY DINNER

THE annual dinner meeting of the Friends of Duke University Library will be held on Friday evening, April 8, 1949, in the West Campus Union. The principal speaker will be Frederick B. Adams, Jr., who assumed the directorship of the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, on December 1, 1948, succeeding Miss Belle daCosta Greene. Mr. Adams, a noted book collector, is President of the Grolier Club and First Vice-President of the Bibliographical Society of America. Detailed plans for this meeting will be sent to all members of the Friends at a later date.

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

A STUDENT book collectors' group is again being sponsored by the Friends of the Library, with Professor Lewis Patton as chairman of the Undergraduate Committee. The group has already held two meetings in the Rare Book Room. At the November meeting Professor Helen Bevington spoke on collecting contemporary poetry, and in December Professor Clarence Gohdes discussed the Carroll Wilson collection of Emerson and the students were permitted a preview of the collection before its public exhibition, noted elsewhere in this issue.

The Undergraduate Committee has announced another contest for student book collectors to be held in the spring.

Contestants will exhibit their collections in the Library during the month of April, and the Committee has decided this year to offer three prizes of \$25.00, \$15.00, and \$10.00 open to all contestants, instead of two prizes of equal value for the best collections of an undergraduate man and woman.

### RECENT GIFTS OF BOOKS

MANY friends have continued to send to the Library generous gifts of both books and money; only a few of the books can be mentioned here. Mrs. Frederick M. Hanes sent about 200 volumes, nearly half of them on African travel; among the others is a 1665 Elzevir edition of Terence. Dr. and Mrs. Josiah C. Trent added several volumes to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt collection which was reported in the last issue of this bulletin. Miss Frances Brown added another title to the collection of works of John Buchan which she has been building in the Woman's College Library. Governor R. Gregg Cherry sent a collection of nearly 1500 pamphlets, primarily official documents of several states. From Mr. Curtis Carroll Davis came a dozen titles in contemporary literature, including several autographed by the authors. Mrs. Edward Manifold continued her contributions of books in memory of her son, 1st Lt. Edward W. L. Manifold, of the class of 1937. Many members of the faculty have been among the donors in the past few months.

From the desiderata list appearing in our last issue, Mr. James T. Babb supplied two of the William McFee titles, and Miss E. Bain Johnson three of the Donn Byrne titles and one by McFee.

### MANUSCRIPT ACQUISITIONS

TWO outstanding manuscript collections have been acquired in recent months: the Smith-Carrington papers (1800-1900) and the Joseph F. Boyd papers (1861-1866). The first, consisting of around 10,000 manuscript items, presents a picture of the activities of two prominent Virginia families: the Smiths of Gloucester County, and the Carringtons of Richmond. The core of the collection is the personal and business correspondence of William Preston Smith, planter and merchant, who carried on an extensive grain trade with Norfolk, Baltimore, and New York markets from 1830 to 1860. The letters of his brother, Thomas Smith, a member of the Virginia legislature, reveal the complicated structure of Virginia politics for the same period. Included also is a group of about a thousand mounted letters of Confederate political and military leaders assembled by Seddon Carrington.

The Joseph F. Boyd papers (about 16,000 manuscript items) are the records of a Union Army officer, quartermaster of the Army of the Ohio which saw service in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia, and was the army of occupation in North Carolina. Boyd seems to have preserved every record which passed through his office during his military career. The col-

lection should be valuable to students interested in the supply problems of the Union armies operating in the South and in the re-establishment of transportation and supply facilities in North Carolina, 1865-66.

—E. G. R.

### ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING

CONSTRUCTION work on the Library addition is now proceeding satisfactorily after a series of troublesome delays and shortages last summer. The new stack area was sufficiently advanced in December to permit the installation of bookshelves on one floor. Some 30,000 volumes were moved temporarily to this new stack from the north wing of the old stack so that alterations could be started there. The Reference Room was redecorated during August and the early part of September, and major alterations completed in the Catalog and Circulation Rooms. As this is being written, arrangements have been made for the installation of acoustic ceiling tile in the Circulation Room, fluorescent lighting here and in the Catalog Room, and for the redecoration of both rooms during the Christmas vacation.

Barring unforeseen delays, it now appears that the administrative offices of the Library in the new tower, quarters for technical processes in the new west wing, several stack floors, and the new manuscript room may be the first parts of the addition to be turned over as "completed," perhaps early in March. Other areas will be completed progres-



sively through the spring, to be followed by alteration and redecoration of certain parts of the original building. It is hoped that by the opening of the fall term in September all collections and departments will be moved into their new locations.

### STAFF CHANGES

SEVERAL changes in the staff of the Library which will be of interest to Friends have occurred since the last issue of this bulletin.

Ellen Frances Frey was married last spring to Dr. A. S. Limouze, and resigned her position at the Library on September 30, 1948. Miss Frey had been a member of the staff since December 1938, serving in many capacities before her appointment as Curator of Rare Books in 1943. She was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Friends of Duke University Library when the association was reorganized in 1945, and had been chief editor of *Library Notes* since that time. She was always an active worker in the organization, and her many services, both official and unofficial, contributed greatly to its effectiveness. All Friends will be gratified to know that the Executive Committee, meeting on October 29, 1948, unanimously elected Miss Frey to life membership in recognition of her outstanding service.

Thomas M. Simkins, Jr., formerly Serials Cataloguer, has been named Acting Curator of Rare Books. Mr. Simkins, who joined the staff of the Library in 1947, will divide his time between the Rare Book Room and the Serials Section for the present.

Edward Graham Roberts assumed the curatorship of manuscripts on August 1, 1948. Mr. Roberts holds the A.B. degree from Sewanee (University of the South), a B.A. in Library Science from Emory University, and is a candidate for the Ph.D. in American history at the University of Virginia. New assistants in the Manuscript Department are Mattie Russell and Mrs. Carolee Guilds.

Helen Oyler, formerly Head of the Circulation Department, is now Head of the Serials Section, replacing Edna Earle Griffin, resigned. John P. Waggoner, Jr., formerly reference librarian, became Head of the Circulation Department on July 1, 1948.

### EXHIBITIONS

THE year's program of exhibitions began in October with the showing of a photographic display on atomic energy lent by *Life* magazine.

The 12th annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the 8th annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History were held jointly in Raleigh October 27-29. On October 28 the entire conference visited the Library, and was later entertained by the University at a luncheon in the ballroom of the West Campus Union. For this occasion, the Manuscript Department prepared an exhibit of selected manuscript and printed materials representative of the resources of the George Washington Flowers Collection, and this remained on view throughout the month of November. The December exhibit was of color reproductions of great paintings

and illuminated manuscripts appropriate to the Christmas season.

The Carroll A. Wilson Emerson collection, described elsewhere in these pages, is now on exhibition, and may be seen until the end of February. The American Institute of Graphic Arts' loan exhibition of "Fifty Books of the Year 1948" will be shown at Duke March 1-22, 1949.

Mr. Albert Schiller, type designer of New York and a member of the Typophiles, has assembled an exhibition illustrating the use of type and type ornaments in design. Mr. Schiller has generously consented to loan this exhibition for display under the sponsorship of the Friends of the Library during the month of April. Through the cooperation of the Department of Aes-

thetics, Art, and Music, it will be hung in the gallery of the Woman's College Library.

#### NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE North Carolina Library Association will hold its biennial meeting in Durham on April 28-29. Mrs. Spears Hicks, Reference Librarian of the Woman's College Library, has been named general chairman of the conference committee, and several other members of the staff are serving on various committees. Miss Marianna Long, Librarian of the Law Library, is treasurer of the Association, and Mr. Powell is a member of the Executive Board.

# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 22

July 1949

## UNITED STATES NEWSPAPERS IN THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

HARRY R. STEVENS

A HUNDRED years ago Thomas B. Macaulay recognized the great importance of newspapers for the study of history. When he wrote his classic *History of England* he drew extensively from them, especially for the celebrated chapters on social history. Since that time not only historians but students of literature, public health, religion, labor, and many other subjects have made large and constantly increasing demands on those treasured sources.

Libraries, partly as a consequence of this scholarly demand, and partly through the efforts of a series of great librarians, have given increasing emphasis to their newspaper collections. At Duke there has been an especially significant appreciation of their importance, initiated largely by the late William K. Boyd, with the result that today Duke University Library has one of the outstanding newspaper collections not only in the South but in the entire United States.

An excellent *Checklist of United States Newspapers* at Duke, compiled

by Mary Wescott and Allene Ramage, was published 1932-37. Since then the collection has continued to grow, and as there has been no recent description of the Duke holdings in this field, one is offered here to indicate the scope and value of this collection.

Duke University Library has over 11,000 volumes of United States newspapers, and in addition more than 1,000 volumes of newspapers on microfilm and in photostat. They represent an area covering almost the entire country, coming from more than 650 cities and towns in forty-four of the forty-eight states. Chronologically they extend, except for earlier scattered issues, from the *American Weekly Mercury* (Philadelphia) of 1719 (reprint), down to the past twenty-four hours, with photostats and microfilm of earlier imprints. More than two centuries of American life and letters are thus represented in the newspaper files.

The newspapers include the general sort with which we are most familiar, as well as religious, labor, commercial,



financial, agricultural, and many other special types, with a fascinating variety of propaganda material.

The papers are about evenly divided between Southern imprints and those from the rest of the United States; 50 per cent of the total quantity are publications from 15 southern states; 14 per cent are from New England; about 30 per cent from New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey; and 6 per cent from the Midwest and Far West. While the Southern collection is outstanding, the representation from the Northeast, especially New York and eastern New England, makes the collection unrivalled in that field among Southern libraries, and provides, with the western material, a sound basis for research of nation-wide scope. The states represented with the largest number of bound volumes are New York (2709 v.), North Carolina (1586 v.), Massachusetts (956 v.), Louisiana (768 v.), and Virginia (688 v.).

The individual titles are mainly from smaller cities and towns, with the great bulk of the material (more than 82 per cent) coming from thirty-four cities, and more than one-third of the total from New York, New Orleans, and Boston. Statistically the leading cities are represented here by the following numbers of volumes:

New York ... 2425	Charlotte ..... 371
New Orleans . 741	Columbia ..... 312
Boston ..... 727	Atlanta ..... 305
Richmond .... 391	Chicago ..... 286
Washington ... 372	Raleigh ..... 267

Durham ..... 257	Greensboro ... 201
Philadelphia .. 233	Portland, Me. . 172
St. Louis ..... 201	

In addition to the outstanding collection from New York City (the Library has at least one, and generally two or three different New York newspapers for almost every day of the entire 19th century), special attention has been given to the other Northeastern and New England material. Eastern New England is well represented by large collections, first of all from Boston (727 v.), and then from Portland, Maine (172 v.), Providence, Rhode Island (110 v.), Worcester, Newburyport, Salem, and Springfield, Massachusetts; Concord, New Hampshire; and Hartford, Connecticut; and a large scattered selection from many smaller New England communities, including, for example, 41 more in Massachusetts alone. Western newspapers are represented principally by files from Chicago, St. Louis, Des Moines, Omaha, San Francisco, Seattle, and St. Paul.

The greatest strength of the Library is concentrated, however, in the southern area, extending all the way from Baltimore to Dallas. In addition to the excellent files from nine southern cities named above, the largest collections are those from Norfolk (124 v.), Baltimore (114 v.), Winston-Salem (76 v.), Charleston (66 v.), Augusta (65 v.), Dallas (60 v.), and Louisville (60 v.). Throughout the Southeast, the distribution of strength by states shows 154 volumes from Maryland, 372 from the

District of Columbia, 688 from Virginia, 1586 from North Carolina, 490 from South Carolina, and 508 from Georgia.

Chronologically, the Duke collection covers almost two and a half centuries. The 18th century is represented by good material from Virginia and Massachusetts, and a large file of microfilm reproductions. North Carolina 18th century newspapers constitute one of the six best collections in the United States. The 19th century is better represented in the period prior to 1865 than in the later years; for, although the quantity is smaller, it represents a larger proportion of the material published. The mid-century files from 1840 to 1865 are particularly valuable. More than 80 per cent of all the newspapers, however, are 20th century publications. This great disproportion in physical bulk is an indication of the vast expansion in size of individual issues that has occurred with the development of cheap newsprint, modern printing presses, and more active news-gathering agencies.

The Library is fortunate in its possession of certain major titles in long, often almost complete files. The most extensive is the *New York Times*, with 902 volumes from 1851 to date; next in quantity are the New Orleans *Abeille*, 1827-1917 (491 v.); New York *Herald-Tribune*, 1925 to date (377 v. plus microfilm); the earlier New York *Herald*, 375 volumes from 1848 to 1921; Charlotte *Observer*, 1874 to date (371

v.); Atlanta *Constitution*, 1917 to date (305 v. plus microfilm); Columbia, S. C., *The State*, 1892 to date (278 v.); Chicago *Tribune*, 1932-1947 (270 v. plus microfilm); Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, 1908 to date (247 v.); Durham *Herald*, 1913 to date (237 v. plus microfilm); Boston *Evening Transcript*, 1931-1941 (236 v.); New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, 1932 to date (234 v.); New York *Tribune*, 1841-1909 (227 v.), the personal file of the editor, Horace Greeley; Raleigh *News and Observer*, 1880 to date (219 v. plus microfilm); Greensboro *News*, 1909-1946 (201 v. plus microfilm); and St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, 1932 to date (201 v. plus microfilm).

The Library has also many other titles which, though not so bulky, are outstanding for other reasons, such as the old Washington *National Intelligencer* of ante-bellum days; the early *National Gazette*, edited by Philip Freneau, and celebrated for its attacks on George Washington while he was president; the fire-breathing Charleston *Mercury*; the abolitionist *Liberator*; and photostatic copies of almost complete files of two rare colonial Williamsburg newspapers, each named the *Virginia Gazette*.

While sixty-four major titles comprise the bulk of the Duke holdings, there is a superior representation of many lesser titles from various areas and periods in fragmentary files that strengthen the larger holdings decidedly. This support from occasional issues is partic-

ularly noteworthy in the case of antebellum Southern newspapers of the period 1840 to 1860, and of Confederate imprints. Many of them survive only in the unique copies at Duke, making this library unsurpassed for various lines of research.

The newspaper collection at Duke, one of the strongest factors in making it a research center for United States history, is constantly growing. Current publication accounts for a large part of the current additions, but a large share is also made up of gifts, purchases, and exchange of earlier material. Among the more valuable recent acquisitions

are a file of the Albany *Evening Journal* from 1847 to 1884, the Ashtabula (Ohio) *Sentinel*, which has contributed some hitherto unknown material on William Dean Howells, and a large collection of Southern titles from the years of the Confederacy, as well as microfilms of many 18th century titles. Other acquisitions are constantly enhancing the value of the material here to facilitate the work of scholars resident at Duke and visiting from other centers. The newspaper collection may in a real sense be regarded as an outstanding living resource of the Duke University Library.



## A NOTE ON POE'S UNHAPPY HOME LIFE

JOHN C. GUILDS

FRANCES ALLAN'S physical frailty and her husband's fugitive extra-marital affairs, perhaps a consequence of this frailty, have sometimes been mentioned by Poe's biographers as causes for lack of harmony in the household of his foster-parents, the John Allans, in Richmond. But there is reason to believe that the root of the Allans' unhappiness goes deeper than that. Mrs. Allan was a member of the Virginia gentry, John Allan was a Scotch immigrant, and their fundamental points of view were far apart.

Some hitherto unpublished letters among the William Galt, Jr., Papers in the Duke University Library suggest that young business-minded Scots in America were advised by their friends and relatives at home to "work hard and stay single." For example, on November 10, 1818, Mary, John Allan's sister, wrote from Scotland to her cousin, William Galt, Jr., in Richmond—"do not you my dear Boy go a fooling amongst the Girls and get yourself married before you know what you are about the Virginians marry when they are Children and I have heard that they often remain so." It is important to note, however, that Miss Allan warns Galt not so much against marrying as against marrying a *Virginia* woman. Since Mary Allan must have been well acquainted with her brother's Virginia wife by this time, one wonders

if she had Mrs. Allan in mind in writing the letter.

That even the cultivated European was not without intolerance in his judgment of Virginians is indicated by Thomas Moore's words, written from Norfolk on November 7, 1803, to his mother—"the few [Virginia] ladies that *pass for white* are to be sure the most unlovely pieces of crockery I ever set my eyes upon."<sup>1</sup> If Mary Allan still possessed such prejudice as late as 1818 it may well be that her brother had held somewhat the same feelings when he first came to Richmond some two decades earlier. Certainly John Allan was not above prejudice; and, because he frequently corresponded with his kinsmen in Scotland, he must have been well aware of their opinions and, perhaps, influenced by them.

Another letter from Mary Allan to young Galt, on October 28, 1819, clearly reveals that the "people back home" still looked upon America, for the most part, as a land of sin and vice: "I heard how very foolishly the young men in Virginia spend their time that they are much given to swearing drinking fighting with all the other vices that lead to destruction."

William Galt, Jr., the kinsman and close friend of John Allan, indicated

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs, journal, and correspondence of Thomas Moore*, ed. by Lord John Russell. London, 1853, I, 139.

his attitude toward the "Virginia Ladies" in a letter to Mary Fowles, dated "Richmond, Feb. 25, 1825." In announcing his engagement to Rosanna Dixon, whose mother (Mrs. John Dixon) was a half-sister of Frances Allan, young Galt writes:

The lady is named Miss Dixon, and is somewhat of the figure that Miss Galt was when I last saw her; her face is generally esteemed beautiful, and She sings well and is a first rate performer on the Piano, and withal has received a good education which has not been thrown away. and as to Cash, She has more than I have,<sup>2</sup> which is however no inducement to me for marrying her, tho' no serious objections.

After this rationalistic, unromantic description of his fiancée, he goes on to say:

It is really a hazardous matter to be so communicative as I have been for the fickleness of the Virginia Ladies has often shown itself, and as it will be some twelve months yet before my happiness will be consummated, owing to some untoward family accidents; and in that long time circumstances might happen to create a change in mind; but it matters not, were she to shew a disposition to be fickle I should not care how soon I was off. She is a neice [*sic*] of Mrs. Allan's but not exactly like her<sup>3</sup> in temper and disposition. . . .

<sup>2</sup> Galt had crossed out the words "probably from five to six thousand dollars," to replace them with "more than I have." He and Rosanna Dixon were married September 15, 1825, by the Reverend W. B. Hart.

<sup>3</sup> Instead of "not exactly like her," Galt had first written "quite unlike her," then "not much resembling her," before deciding upon the final phras-

Later he adds:

You observe that I will think the Scotch Ladies write as much nonsense as I said the Virginia Ladies talk, you are quite mistaken. I will not however offend you with a comparison, on being put on a level with them,<sup>4</sup> for as far as I am able to judge, the generality [*sic*] of the Virginia Ladies are as I before described them, and are of course quite unlike the Ladies of your own country. . . .

If Scotchmen looked down on the ladies of Virginia, it must be remembered also that Richmond did not at once accept these bluff Scottish merchants into its better social circles. We recall that, even as late as 1863, the second Mrs. Allan and her children were still known condescendingly as "the Scotch Allans," suggesting that perhaps John Allan, despite his wealth and business prestige, never quite gained the social distinction of a native Virginia planter.

John Allan's letter from London to William Galt, Jr., in Richmond on November 12, 1818, further reveals some of the prejudices with which a Scotchman in Virginia had to contend. After writing young Galt that his father is "displeased with you and thinks you quarrelsome & ill tempered," he goes on to say—"as I do not know the cause or causes you have had to quarrel I am quite at a loss to advise

ing. In any of the three phrases, however, Galt seems apologetic in admitting his fiancée's association with Frances Allan.

<sup>4</sup> The words "on being put on a level with them" are struck through in the manuscript.

or counsel your future conduct, I dare say some one has been mocking your Scotch dialect abusing Scotland or some such thing."

Indeed, the relationship between Richmond's gentlemen planters and her Scotch merchants was a curious one. Despite the fact that they did business together and even mingled socially, neither apparently was without a distaste for the other. Perhaps one of the chief reasons John Allan finally won general social approval was the fact that his first wife was the daughter of a Virginia planter. But this same difference of backgrounds must have made it exceedingly difficult

for Frances Allan to view some of her husband's Scotch mannerisms and habits of thought without aversion. Certainly, the inevitable gulf between the daughter of a Virginia planter and a native son of Scotland must have been a formidable handicap to happy marriage.

It is not hard, then, to understand why young Edgar Poe, the son of an actress and the "adopted" son of a Scotch merchant, should have—particularly while a student at the University of Virginia—"longed for the social position which the son of a Virginia planter might command."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Agnes Bondurant, *Poe's Richmond*. Richmond, [1942], 204.



# REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FRIENDS OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FOR 1948

PREPARED FOR THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING OF  
THE FRIENDS AT DUKE UNIVERSITY, APRIL 7, 1949

THE membership for the year 1948 was 317—just about the same as the previous year. By action of the Executive Board, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Limouze have been added to the list of life members in recognition of the extraordinary services rendered to the organization over a period of years by Mrs. Limouze, the former Ellen Frey, whom we all miss here tonight. Nor can we gather here without being aware of how sorely we miss the presence of two devoted Friends, Newman Ivey White and Josiah Charles Trent, life members and members of the Executive Board, who have been taken from us by death during the past year. Their contributions—of sympathetic interest and knowing advice, no less than of books and other materials—have been built into the Library, as their scholarship has become part of the heritage and pride of the University, and their warm friendship and blithe spirits a lasting and happy memory in our hearts.

Gifts of books during the past year have been far too numerous to detail here; 2392 pieces came to the Library from its Friends during calendar 1948: current publications of both scholarly and general interest, first editions of English and American authors, mod-

ern press books, Elzevirs, periodicals—both current subscriptions and old files—and newspapers from all parts of the world, 16th and 17th century imprints, and manuscripts. Among the largest gifts were more than 1000 items from former Governor R. Gregg Cherry, primarily state documents; some 175 items from David L. Cozart, Jr., of Raleigh, all current German material; from Professor and Mrs. Allan H. Gilbert about 200 Italian items, containing many current posters; about 1000 pieces, principally pamphlets and periodical issues, from Dr. C. Sylvester Green of Durham; an Elzevir Terence (Amsterdam, 1665), 94 volumes on African travel and as many miscellaneous volumes, many of them autographed, from Mrs. Frederick M. Hanes; and some 200 volumes from former Dean and Mrs. H. C. Horack. Many Friends have shown continuing interest in their earlier gifts: Mr. Ehlhardt has added to our Frost Collection; Miss Frances Brown continues to add to the works of John Buchan; Dr. and Mrs. Trent have made important and interesting additions to the Whitman and Roosevelt collections which they established. Mr. James T. Babb of New Haven, Miss Bain Johnson of Thomasville, Mr. and Mrs.

Henry Schuman of New York, Mr. David Wagstaff of Tuxedo Park, and others have responded to our desiderata lists appearing from time to time in *Library Notes*. A representative selection of these gifts of the past year is now on exhibition in the Circulation Room of the General Library, and I hope you will take a few moments to visit it and see this concrete evidence of your generosity.

Mr. George Arents, who sent us in 1945 a collection of more than 300 volumes and pamphlets on tobacco, has announced his intention of adding several hundred more items to the same collection. Two large shipments of this new gift have been received so lately that we cannot attempt to describe its wealth fairly tonight. A more adequate description will be made when it has all been received and cataloged and placed in our Rare Book Room.

Just 48 hours ago we received from Mrs. Henry Bellamann three items of unique interest and sentimental value to be added to her husband's Dante collection which she presented a few years ago. One is Elizabeth Barrett Browning's copy of the *Inferno* volume of Cayley's translation of *The Divine Comedy*—the first edition (London, 1851), inscribed in Cayley's hand "Mrs. Browning from the Translator," which Mr. Bellamann had purchased at the sale of the Brownings' library in London in 1913. The second is a signed typewritten sonnet by Mrs.

Bellamann, "To H. B. Dantist." The third is a sheaf of Mr. Bellamann's manuscripts which I have not yet been able to examine carefully, but which we know contains several short or fragmentary informal essays of autobiographical and critical nature, an essay on the art of translation, and part of his own translation of Dante, which was never completed. The majority of the material is hand written in pencil on soft paper—obviously first drafts which had not been worked over or polished into final form. We believe it is all unpublished material, some of which we may be able to share with you later through *Library Notes*.

In addition to these gifts, we have purchased from funds given by Friends a Lyons, 1549, *Dance of Death* with Holbein engravings, and several lesser items. The amount available in the Friends' fund for the increase of the Library as of today is \$885.

But man lives not by bread alone, nor a library by books. Many Friends have given services which we cannot exhibit in a glass case, nor set upon one of our several miles of shelves, nor enclose in a "blue levant morocco solander case"! You have entertained our visiting speakers, loaned your own possessions for exhibition, entertained and spoken to our group of student book collectors, judged their contest, drawn posters for Library use, written papers and given editorial assistance on *Library Notes*, contributed essential printing, and even purchased from

secondhand book dealers our "lost" books and returned them to us!

As publications during the past year, the Friends have issued two numbers of *Library Notes*, and a Christmas greeting which used as its design an engraving from one of our rare emblem books. Miss Clare Leighton was commissioned to design a bookplate for our Bellamann Dante collection. Fifty impressions were pulled from the original wood block and numbered and signed by the artist; a like number of copies of a brochure (in which Miss Leighton described her approach to the problems of the design and Professor Gilbert's evaluative article was reprinted from *Library Notes*) were published. Mr. James Thornton Gittman, who was instrumental in directing the gift of the Dante collection to Duke, contributed generously toward the cost of this handsome bookplate, and has shown his continuing interest by frequent gifts of books.

As Friends, you may be interested also in some of the internal activities of your Library. The largest and most impressive acquisitions have been the Emerson collection formed by the late Carroll A. Wilson, which was described by Professor Gohdes in the last issue of *Library Notes*, and the entire library of the late Professor Guido Mazzoni of the University of Florence, comprising some 23,000 volumes and 67,000 pamphlets, largely of Italian and comparative literature. The Mazzoni collection, in 151 large wooden cases,

has reached the campus from Italy, but has not yet been unpacked and sorted. When we have the space in which to spread out and examine it, it will be described fully. It is without question one of the great scholarly libraries of the world in Italian literature, and possibly the finest in America.

And the daily routines of normal activity go on, this year under particularly trying physical conditions, as many of you know. The use of the Library has shown a steady increase in almost all service departments. The increase in demands for reference service has been almost phenomenal, and circulation from both the Undergraduate Reading Room and the general collection serviced at the Main Loan Desk has shown a marked increase. In the month of March (which included almost a full week of holiday) circulation from the Main Loan Desk was approximately one-third greater than that in the month showing the next greatest circulation. A survey of service provided at the Main Loan Desk was made for one entire week last November to determine how completely requests for books from the general stack collection were being met. Despite the confused state of our building, the overcrowded condition of the stacks, and the increase in library use without corresponding increase in staff, the wanted book or an immediate report on its location was supplied for 97.65 per cent of all requests. The search for the remaining 2.35 per cent



was successful in every case, and the book or a report on its whereabouts supplied within twenty-four hours. Another survey showed the average time required to fill all requests to be less than two and three-fourths minutes. Though there is much more that the Library staff would like to be able to do for you, I believe the record this year shows that they are trying to keep service at a level of quality worthy of your interest in and support of the Library.

Those of you who are members of the University community have seen, and heard (!) the magnificent gift of an anonymous Friend being translated into steel and stone and plaster and wood. We are happy tonight to be able to tell you that you will not have to "hear" it much longer! The major construction work on the enlarged Library building is completed; parts of the stack remain to be erected, certain alterations and refurbishing in the original building which were not made a

part of the general contract are still to be accomplished, and we are waiting for delivery of new furniture. But, at the same time, we are gradually expanding into our new *lebensraum*—almost all the staff are now out of the "dungeon"; we are moving our collections into the new stack and bringing in from the far places the thousands of books which have been in storage for several years; setting up improved microphotographic equipment; and removing the layers of plaster dust which the builders left as a memento. These tasks will not be completed in the next week, or even month. But we hope by the opening of the new academic year to be all moved and in good order, closets and storerooms and dark places rid of their skeletons, floors waxed and brass polished, so that we may plan an occasion when we can unblushingly open all doors and say to you, "Come and see and rejoice with us!"

—ROBERT W. CHRIST.

## DESIDERATA

Following is a list of titles by American and British authors of the 19th and 20th centuries which are needed to complete the Library's holdings of these authors. While first editions would be highly prized, the Library's chief concern is to have on its shelves a good reading and study copy of any edition. The assistance of Friends in the acquisition of these titles will be greatly appreciated.

### MARY HUNTER AUSTIN

- The arrow maker: a drama in three acts.* New York, 1911.  
*The basket woman.* Boston, 1904.  
*California: the land of the sun.* New York, 1914.  
*Can prayer be answered.* New York, 1934.  
*The children sing in the far west.* Boston, 1928.  
*Christ in Italy.* New York, 1912.  
*Experiences facing death.* Indianapolis, 1931.  
*The flock.* Boston, 1906.  
*The ford.* Boston, 1917.  
*The green bough.* Garden City, 1913.  
*The land of journey's ending.* New York, 1924.  
*Lost borders.* New York, 1909.  
*The lovely lady.* Garden City, 1913.  
*Love and the soul maker.* New York, 1914.  
*No. 26 Jayne Street.* Boston, 1920.  
*Outland.* London, 1910.  
*Santa Lucia.* New York, 1908.  
*Starry adventure.* Boston, 1931.  
*The trail book.* Boston, 1918.

### ARNOLD BENNETT

- Accident.* Garden City, 1928.  
*The author's craft.* London, 1914.  
*Body and soul; a play in four acts.* New York, 1921.  
*Cupid and common sense; a play in four acts.* London, 1910.  
*Fame and fiction; an enquiry into certain popularities.* London, 1901.  
*The grim smile of the Five Towns.* London, 1907.  
*Judith; a play in three acts.* London, 1919.  
*London life; a play in three acts.* London, 1924.  
*The love match; a play in five scenes.* London, 1922.  
*Milestones; a play in three acts.* London, 1912.  
*Polite farces for the drawing-room.* London, 1900.  
*The title; a comedy in three acts.* London, 1918.  
*What the public wants; a play in four acts.* London, 1910.

### MARY MAPES DODGE

- Along the way.* New York, 1879.  
*Donald and Dorothy.* Boston, 1883.  
*A few friends and how they amused themselves.* Philadelphia, 1869.  
*The golden gate.* Chicago, 1903.  
*The Irvington stories.* New York, 1865.  
*The land of pluck.* New York, 1894.  
*When life is young.* New York, 1894.

### MARY WILKINS FREEMAN

- The adventures of Ann.* Boston, 1886.  
*Decorative plaques.* Boston, 1883.  
*Edgewater people.* New York, 1918.  
*The green door.* New York, 1910.

## GEORGE GISSING

- Critical studies of the works of Charles Dickens.* New York, 1924.  
*Letters to an editor.* London, 1915.  
*Stories and sketches.* London, 1938.  
*Stray leaves from the private papers of Henry Ryecroft.* Westport, Conn., 1942.

## HELEN HUNT JACKSON

- Easter bells.* New York, 1884.  
*My legacy.* Boston, 1888.  
*Pansy Billings and Popsy.* Boston, 1898.

## SARAH ORNE JEWETT

- The Normans.* New York, 1901.  
*Play days; a book of stories for children.* Boston, 1878.  
*Verses.* Boston, 1916.

## CHARLES EDWARD MONTAGUE

- Action and other stories.* London, 1928.  
*Fiery particles.* London, 1923.  
*The front line.* London, 1917.  
*The morning's war; a romance.* New York, 1913.  
*Notes from Calais base, and pictures of its many activities.* London, 1918.

## JAMES K. PAULDING

- A gift from fairy-land.* New York, 1838.  
*Koningsmarke . . . a story of the new world.* New York, 1823.  
*The new mirror for travellers, and a guide to the springs.* New York, 1828.  
*A sketch of old England.* New York, 1822.

## JOHN BOYNTON PRIESTLEY

- Dangerous corner; a play in three acts.* New York, 1932.  
*Eden end; a play in three acts.* London, 1934.

*Laburnum grove; a comedy in three acts.* London, 1934.

## WILLIAM GILMORE SIMMS

- As good as a comedy; or, The Tennesseean's story.* Philadelphia, 1852.  
*The book of my lady.* Philadelphia, 1833.  
*Castle Dismal; or, The bachelor's Christmas.* New York, 1844.  
*Charleston and her satirists.* Charleston, 1848.  
*Donna Florida.* Charleston, 1843.  
*Early lays.* Charleston, 1827.  
*Father Abbott; or, the home tourist.* Charleston, 1849.  
*Flirtation at the Mouline house.* Charleston, 1850.  
*Grouped thoughts and scattered fancies.* Richmond, 1845.  
*Helen Halsey; or, The swamp state of Conelachita.* New York, 1845.  
*Michael Bonham; or, The fall of Bexar.* Richmond, 1852.  
*A monody on the death of General Cotesworth Pinckney.* Charleston, 1825.  
*The morals of slavery, being a brief review of the writings of Miss Martineau.* Charleston, 1838.  
*The prima donna: a passage from life.* Philadelphia, 1844.  
*The Quaker partisans.* Philadelphia, 1869.  
*The sense of the beautiful.* Charleston, 1870.  
*Slavery in America.* Richmond, 1838.  
*The tri-color; or, Three days of blood in Paris.* London, 1830.  
*The vision of Cortes, Cain, and other poems.* Charleston, 1829.



## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY DINNER

THE annual dinner meeting of The Friends of Duke University Library on Thursday, April 7, was attended by 123 Friends, who pronounced it one of the most interesting and enjoyable meetings in the history of the organization. Dr. B. E. Powell, University Librarian and Chairman of the Executive Committee, presided, and Rev. James T. Cleland gave the opening invocation.

After dinner, Dr. Powell called on Mr. Robert W. Christ, Secretary of the Executive Committee, for a report on the activities of the previous year. (This report is printed elsewhere in this issue.) He then called on Mr. Willis Smith, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Duke University, to introduce to the Friends Dr. Arthur Hollis Edens, President of the University. President Edens' gracious remarks of greeting were warmly received and assure him a permanent place in the fellowship of the Friends. Rev. George B. Ehlhardt, Chairman of the Program Committee, then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Frederick B. Adams, Jr., Director of the Pierpont Morgan Library and President of the Grolier Club of New York.

Mr. Adams spoke on "The Beginnings of the Pierpont Morgan Library," emphasizing how and why it

was started, and the elements in its growth. The elder Morgan's collection in 1883, when Joseph Sabin prepared a forty-page catalog of it, was not distinguished for rarities; it was rather a collection primarily of books which the critical public had long acclaimed. Mr. Morgan appeared in it as a "safe" collector. Only a few items, Mr. Adams told the meeting, seemed to indicate in any way the future direction of his collection. There were reproductions of manuscript illuminations by Fouquet, some rebound volumes of Dickens, a letter of Robert Burns and a facsimile of his Kilmarnock *Poems*, Thomas Moore's own copy of an American edition of his collected poems (with manuscript corrections and the note opposite one poem, "Not mine—T. M."), the first edition (1663) of Eliot's Indian Bible, and a collection of autographs of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

From this modest group of collectors' items, Mr. Adams traced all too briefly the development of the magnificent collection now available to the public as The Pierpont Morgan Library. The Morgans, their librarians, and their agents came alive in Mr. Adams' interesting and amusing anecdotes about their collecting activities and the acquisition of certain specific items, such as the "Golden Gospels," the Caxtons, and the almost unbelievable story of the reunion after nearly

a century of a Keats letter with the signature which had been clipped from it.

In closing, Mr. Adams remarked, "One is humble before the spectacle of those great works of art and literature which man has been able to create and to communicate through the centuries to his posterity. Holding in one's hands Countess Judith's two Latin manuscripts of the Four Gospels handsomely written and illuminated for her in England a short time before the Norman Conquest, knowing the many lands in which they have taught their lessons of language and of line, recalling the actual names of those owners, nobleman and commoner, saint and rogue, who have possessed them and reflecting on their survival through many wars of princes and peoples, one is forcibly invaded by a sense of the history and continuity of mankind. And one feels a warm sense of gratitude and kinship for the people (friends of future libraries, we might call them) who lovingly and jealously guarded such treasures through the centuries."

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

THE student book collectors group closed its activities for the year with the third annual contest sponsored by The Friends of the Library for the best student book collection. Nine undergraduates entered the competition, and their collections were dis-

played in the General Library where they were viewed by the judges: Mr. Charles S. Sydnor, Mr. Norman Foerster, and Mr. Arthur Ferguson. The contestants were interviewed by the judges on April 22, and at the final meeting of the group on April 27 in the new Rare Book Room the prizes were presented to the winners by the Librarian. First prize of twenty-five dollars was won by Richard W. Van Fossen for his collection on Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle. Larry A. Bear's collection of general literature earned him the second prize of fifteen dollars, and third prize of ten dollars went to Mary Wimberly, who submitted a collection of French literature started when she was spending her junior year in study in Paris. All three winners were members of the senior class, and Van Fossen was a student assistant in the Reference Department of the General Library. Dr. Robert Woody spoke at this meeting on the Flowers Collection.

The committee directing the program of the student collectors for the past year included Professors Frances Brown, Louise Hall, Mary Poteat, Helen Bevington, Arthur Ferguson, William Blackburn, Lewis Leary, and the chairman, Lewis Patton.

### GIFTS

A NUMBER of interesting and unusual gifts have come to the Library since the last issue of *Library Notes*. Several are mentioned in the

report of the Secretary elsewhere in this issue. Miss Mary Shotwell of Oxford has sent a Petersburg, 1841, edition of William Byrd's *The Westover Manuscripts*. Mr. David A. Randall of New York added to our Emerson collection a fine copy of *Borrowings*, an anthology published in San Francisco, 1891, in which the famous "mouse-trap" quotation was first attributed to Emerson. Mr. R. L. Immelen of Rome has sent us two plays of Andrea Calmo, both 16th century editions. Mr. Richard Van Fossen presented two books on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. Thomas Simkins several tobacco items, and Mrs. Mary Canada Stone a number of current books of general interest.

From Professor Lewis Leary came an interesting group of contemporary literary manuscripts, including several manuscript drafts and working copies of poems by Genevieve Taggard (two of them unpublished), a manuscript poem by Edward Davidson, and a set of lecture notes of Jesse Stuart. Mr. Robert E. Scudder of Washington, who was a guest at the annual dinner meeting of the Friends, has succeeded in locating a first edition copy of the Armed Services Edition of Robert Frost's *Come In*, and has sent it to the library as an addition to our Frost collection.

Rev. George B. Ehlhardt has recently given fifteen British imprints of the 16th and 17th centuries relating to the Reformation in England; two phono-

graph records of Anton Brees playing the Duke carillon; and a collection of fifty-six publications of the Grolier Club of New York, presented in memory of Dr. Josiah C. Trent and Professor Newman Ivey White.

With funds contributed by the Friends, one hundred and thirty-nine volumes have recently been purchased for the Ministers' Loan Library, and for the Divinity School Library a mezzotint portrait of John Wesley, one of only one hundred copies issued by the Methodist Historical Society of England in honor of the anniversary of the establishment of the Holy Club at Oxford. The balance now available in the Friends' fund for the increase of the Library is \$714.73, of which \$272.25 is reserved by request of the donors for the Ministers' Loan Library.

#### MRS. LILLIAN B. GRIGGS RETIRES

ON FRIDAY evening, May 20, the Staff Association of the Duke University Libraries arranged a dinner in the Woman's Union Building for Mrs. Lillian B. Griggs, who had announced her intention to retire as librarian of the Woman's College Library on June 30. A few of Mrs. Griggs' friends from outside the University community joined with over seventy members of the faculty and staff to honor her for her accomplishments in directing the Woman's College Library for the past nineteen years.



Mrs. Griggs had been librarian of the Durham Public Library from 1911-1923, during which time she supervised the planning of its present building, and also put in operation the first book-mobile in the state. In 1918-1919 she was on leave for war service with the American Library Association in camp libraries both here and abroad. From 1924 to 1930 she was director of the North Carolina Library Commission. She has also served as president of the North Carolina Library Association, the Southeastern Library Association, and the League of Library Commissions of the American Library Association.

Mrs. Griggs came to Duke in 1930, when the General Library was opened on the West Campus and the Woman's College Library had its attractive building on East Campus, but almost no books. In Mrs. Griggs' hands the collection there has grown to some 80,000 volumes essential to the undergraduate work of the College, and its usefulness is attested both by its high circulation record and the regard of the members of the faculty who teach on the East Campus. Following the dinner, Dr. Katharine Gilbert, Chairman of the Department of Aesthetics, Art, and Music and a former chairman of the Woman's College Library Committee, Dr. Lewis Leary, now a member of the Library Council as well as of the Woman's College Library Committee, and Dean R. Florence Brinkley of the

Woman's College spoke briefly on Mrs. Griggs' contributions to the Library and to the College. At the conclusion of the program, Dr. B. E. Powell presented a gift to Mrs. Griggs from the staff.

### THE LIBRARY BUILDING

AS NOTED in the Secretary's report, the contractor finished his work on the enlarged library building early in April. Since that time the Rare Book Room has been furnished and occupied, the old Manuscripts Room has been redecorated and refurnished as a Conference Room, the old quarters of Public Documents and Subject Cataloging on the second floor have been converted into a Bibliography Room and new offices for the Order and Serials Sections.

At this writing, shelving for the eighth floor of the new stack has not yet been received, nor has the air-conditioning unit of the stack been completed; construction of shelving, redecorating, or furnishing is still incomplete in the Graduate Reading Room, the recreational reading area of the Undergraduate Reading Room (the former Rare Book Room), the new entrance lobby, one special collection room adjoining the new Rare Book Room, the room for audio-visual materials, Periodicals Room, and the staff lounge.

Nearly three-fourths of the general

stack collection has been moved to new locations in the enlarged stack, and this moving will continue through the summer. As soon as the eighth stack floor is equipped, materials remaining in storage in the Woman's College Library can be brought to the General Library and shelved, and the boxed materials stored in the corridors of the old building can be unpacked.

Early fall should see the present building and alteration program completed, and all collections and services re-located. A formal opening will probably be held at that time, and a committee of the Friends is now at work on plans for this.

### STAFF ASSOCIATION

1948-1949 has been an eventful year for the Staff Association of the Duke University Libraries. The first meeting was held February 1. On this evening Dr. Louis A. Warren, director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation and an authority on Abraham Lincoln, spoke to the members of the association and their guests upon the subject, "The Significance of the Lincoln Papers." Dr. Warren was introduced by the Reverend George B. Ehlhardt, who is a collector of Lincolniana and who, like the speaker, was present when the Lincoln papers were opened at the Library of Congress in July 1947. The address was followed by an informal reception.

On April 6 the staff had the privilege of hearing Frederick B. Adams,

Jr., Director of the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, at the Friends of the Library dinner.

The next outstanding event was the 26th meeting of the North Carolina Library Association, which was held in Durham late in April. On the afternoon of the 28th the Duke University Libraries, with the Durham Public Library and the Durham School Libraries, entertained approximately 250 guests at tea in the University House. Among those who participated actively in the three-day meeting are Miss Marianna Long, who is treasurer of the organization; Dr. B. E. Powell, who is a member of the executive committee; Mrs. Spears Hicks, who served as chairman of the committee on local arrangements; Mr. Robert W. Christ, who was the speaker in the Special Libraries Section; and Miss Lucille Simcoe, who took part in the panel discussion at the junior members round-table luncheon.

Always a red-letter day is that upon which the annual meeting with the staff association of the University of North Carolina is held. This year the Duke librarians were entertained delightfully by their Carolina friends on May 3 in the Graham Memorial. Paul Green, the noted playwright, was the speaker for the occasion; Mr. Green chose for his topic, "What the Library Means to Me."

The climax of the year's activities was reached May 20 when Mrs. Lillian B. Griggs, for nineteen years the highly

successful librarian of the Woman's College, was the guest of honor at a dinner given in the East Campus Union.

That the association is interested in philanthropic enterprises devoted to the distribution of books is, of course, a foregone conclusion. Each year as its contribution to "the public library of the high seas," it makes a donation to the American Merchant Marine Li-

brary Association. In addition, in December it sent a check to the American Library Association for the International Youth Library. At present, however, it is concentrating its efforts upon the education of future librarians, for it is now endeavoring to raise money to fulfill a pledge made to the North Carolina Library Association for its scholarship fund.

—ESTHER EVANS, President.





THE LIBRARY  
OF  
DUKE UNIVERSITY

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

THE FRIENDS OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

1949





## HISTORICAL NOTES

THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, like the University itself, has its origin in Union Institute, established in Randolph County, North Carolina, in 1838. The Union Institute Academy became Trinity College in 1859, and moved to Durham in 1892, where it remains the undergraduate college of arts and sciences for men of Duke University.

Nathan Hunt, Jr., proposed to establish a library in the Academy at a meeting of the Union Institute Society in 1840, and a committee was appointed to study his proposal; unfortunately, the minutes of the Society do not include a record of the committee's report. In 1846 a debating society, the Columbian Literary Society, was organized at Union Institute, and began at once to collect books for its members' use. In 1851 the Hesperian Literary Society was formed, and keen rivalry developed between the two societies in building up their libraries. The college, too, was buying books, for the Catalogue of Trinity College, 1860-1861, gives the number of books in each of the societies as 2200, and in the College Library as 650. A Theological Society, which flourished at Trinity College in 1867-1868, also had its collection of books.

John Franklin Crowell assumed the Presidency of Trinity College in August, 1887, and in the first year of his administration persuaded all three of the societies to consolidate their collections with that of the College, forming the Trinity College Library (an estimated 9000 volumes) which was placed in the old Chapel building. When the College moved to Durham in 1892, the Library was established in the largest room of the Washington Duke Building.

Rev. John C. Kilgo, who succeeded Crowell as President in August, 1894, said in his inaugural address that the Library must be increased, and sought the support of trustees, alumni, and friends for this purpose. In 1899 he appointed the first full-time, permanent librarian, Joseph P. Breedlove, and at commencement in June 1900 announced that Mr. James B. Duke had given money to erect the first library building. This was opened on February 23, 1903, and when a Law Library was started in 1904, it was shelved in the same building. By 1910 the Library had grown to 40,000 volumes, and more than doubled again in the next fourteen years, so that some 90,000 volumes



GENERAL LIBRARY BUILDING  
FROM THE SOUTH

completely filled the building at the end of 1924 when the University was created and plans for the development of the present two campuses were drawn.

The present Woman's College Library, on the old Trinity College campus, was completed in March, 1927, and the collection was moved there. (The original library building was dismantled and presented to Kittrell College in Kittrell, North Carolina, where it was rebuilt and still serves as a library building.) An enlarged faculty and student body, however, and a university program of graduate study and research, demanded greatly increased library resources. Less than four years later, when the West campus was completed and the Library was moved again in August, 1930, the University had a collection of nearly 200,000 volumes. A new collection was started for the Woman's College Library with the opening of that College in September 1930.

The exceptional rate of growth established in the late twenties continued through the thirties, and by the time of the second World War the General Library was overcrowded. Thousands of books had to be packed in boxes, removed from the stacks, and stored elsewhere in order to make room for new accessions. Thousands more of new acquisitions had to be packed and stored for lack of space in which to catalog or shelve them. It was not until 1947, in fact, that the gift of a friend made possible alterations and new construction which doubled the capacity of the General Library building. During the summer of 1949 the collection, including stored materials, was reshelfed to take advantage of new stack space, services were reorganized, and the enlarged building formally opened on October 21, 1949.

On June 30, 1949, the combined holdings of the University totaled more than 960,000 volumes cataloged and available for use. About 615,000 were in the General Library, 80,000 in the Woman's College Library, 45,000 in the Divinity School Library, 90,000 in the Law Library, and 50,000 in the Hospital Library, with the remaining 80,000 in the departmental libraries of Biology-Forestry, Chemistry, Physics-Mathematics, and the College of Engineering. The manuscript collection contained over 1,000,000 items, and there were in addition approximately 125,000 books and pamphlets which had not yet been cataloged for public use.





THE GRADUATE READING ROOM

## THE LIBRARY BUILDING

THE General Library building occupies the southwest corner of the academic quadrangle on the West, or University, campus. The Divinity School adjoins on the West, and the Law School on the North. It provides air-conditioned stacks for approximately 900,000 volumes, reading rooms and carrells for 900 readers, office space for the staff of more than 60, special facilities for rare books, manuscripts, newspapers, and photographic services, and offices for 30 members of the faculty.

### Ground Floor

The ground floor houses a reading room for the use of bound newspapers, reading machines for microfilms, and photographic services equipped with the most modern cameras and enlargers for making microfilm and photoprint copies of books, newspapers, and manuscripts. The two lower floors of the bookstack, adjoining these rooms, are given over to storage of bound newspapers. There is a room for classes using audio-visual materials, provided with projection equipment, record players, and the like. The remainder of this floor is occupied by a receiving and shipping room, storage rooms, and a lounge and kitchenette for the use of the library staff. The ground floor of the North tower contains an air-conditioned office, workroom, reading room, and storage area for the manuscript collections and University archives.

### First Floor

The first floor provides reading rooms for the principal needs of students in their course work. An Undergraduate Reading Room, with tables and chairs for more than 150 readers, houses books reserved for assigned reading in undergraduate courses, as well as an Undergraduate Collection of about 3000 books representing the best thought and literature of all ages, and available for use or circulation from open shelves. A few basic reference works are also available here. Adjoining this large reading room is a small room furnished like a private library, with comfortable sofas and chairs for recreational reading. A constantly changing collection of current literature, and other books of general interest fill the bookshelves lining the walls.



THE RARE BOOK ROOM



A Graduate Reading Room, with accommodations for ninety readers, contains books reserved for graduate and senior-graduate courses, a small collection of reference and bibliographical tools, and other collections of special importance to graduate students. A Periodical Room, with tables for eighty readers, has cabinets with closed compartments for the current, unbound issues of most of the Library's periodicals; those in special subject fields are sent direct to the appropriate departmental libraries. There is also a Conference Room for meetings of the Library Council and similar academic groups, and for doctoral examinations.

The first floor of the North Tower is devoted entirely to Rare Book Rooms. A large reading room, beautifully decorated in the style of a private collector's library, has grilled-door shelving, comfortable chairs and study tables, and exhibition cases. Opening from this are two smaller special collection rooms: the Trent Room houses the Walt Whitman collection and other rare books presented by the late Dr. J. C. Trent and Mrs. Trent; the other houses the rare printed items of the George Washington Flowers collection of Southern Americana and similar materials. There is also an office for the Curator of Rare Books, with adjoining stacks for additional book storage. These quarters are entirely air-conditioned. The lobby, with its exit through a colonnade to the campus walk, has more exhibition cases for the display of rare books and manuscripts.



A CORNER OF THE TRENT ROOM, SHOWING THE WHITMAN COLLECTION

## Second Floor

On the second floor are the principal readers' services, and offices for the library staff and administration. The Public Catalog Room houses the union card catalog of books in all libraries of the University, and an author catalog of the University of North Carolina Library. Portraits of former members of the University faculty and administration hang on the walls of this room. An adjoining Bibliography Room supplements the Library's own catalog with trade and other bibliographies of the major publishing countries of the world, and the printed catalogs of numerous other libraries.

The Circulation Department includes the Main Loan Desk for circulation of the general collection, and the entrance to the central stack of eight floors, where 250 carrells, many of them completely enclosed, offer to members of the faculty and graduate students comfortable facilities for private study in close proximity to the books needed for their research. Direct communication between the Main Loan Desk and each floor of the stack is maintained through pneumatic tubes, and books are delivered to the Desk by an electric booklift or student pages. Two elevators for passengers and booktrucks also serve the central stack, and two elevators serve the public rooms and offices.

Opposite the Main Loan Desk and flanked by open shelves for the display



CARRELLS IN THE STACK

of new accessions and locked cases for timely exhibits of materials from all collections of the Library, is the entrance to the Reference and General Reading Room. Here approximately 5000 reference books and bibliographies are available on open shelves, with study tables for 125 readers. On the walls of this room are portraits of members of the Duke family, trustees of the Duke Endowment, and others associated with the original development of the University. The Public Documents Room houses several reference sets and current issues of state and federal publications, with special catalogs and bibliographical tools for their use.

In the North tower is a suite of offices for the Librarian, Assistant Librarian, and secretaries. Offices and workrooms for the Technical Processes Division occupy the entire west end of the second floor and provide for the ordering, physical preparation, binding, cataloging, and classification of books.

## Upper Floors

On the third floor are a Map Room, seminar rooms, and a large reading room now unassigned. The remainder of this floor, the entire fourth and fifth floors of the Southeast tower, and the fourth floor of the North tower, are occupied by faculty offices.



## THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

THOUGH only a quarter-century old as a university collection, the Duke University Library is now one of the twelve or fifteen largest university libraries in the nation. The Woman's College Library is primarily an undergraduate library, emphasizing those fields in which instruction has been concentrated on the East campus. The departmental libraries house the materials for both undergraduate and graduate work in the departments of Botany, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Zoology, the College of Engineering, the School of Forestry, and the Divinity School. The libraries of the School of Law and the School of Medicine meet the special needs of students and faculties of those schools. The General Library has been developed to satisfy the requirements of undergraduate instruction, and the course work and research of graduate students and faculty in the humanities and the social sciences.

For undergraduate study the collection is well rounded in all fields; for graduate research, an effort has been made to secure basic source materials as well as the important publications of criticism and discussion. Annual purchases have been supplemented by the gifts of friends, and by the acquisition of a number of special collections and libraries in several fields now emphasized in the programs of graduate research.

The Library has been particularly fortunate in securing many of the great monumental sets of printed documentary sources, such as Migne's *Patrologia* (both Greek and Latin series), *Die Griechischen Christlichen Schriftsteller der ersten drei Jahrhunderte*, *Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum*, *Corpus Scriptorum Historiae Byzantinae*, *Monumenta Germaniae Historica*, Muratori's *Rerum Italicarum Scriptores*, and the *Chronicles and Memorials*.

Publications of the European academies, containing monographs in most of the fields of knowledge and contributing important sources for research programs of graduate students and faculty in many departments, are well represented with a collection of over 4000 volumes, including sets of the *Preussische Akademie der Wissenschaften* (Berlin); *Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen*; *Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften*; *Akademie der Wissenschaften* (Vienna); *Académie des Sciences* (Paris); *Académie des*

*Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres* (Paris); *Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques* (Paris); *Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei* (Rome); *Accademia Pontificia dei Nuovi Lincei* (Rome); *Academia Española* (Madrid); *Academia de la Historia* (Madrid); *Akademii Nauk* (Leningrad); *Danske Videnskabernes Selskab* (Copenhagen); *Norske Videnskaps-akademi* (Oslo); *Akademie van Wetenschappen* (Amsterdam); *Académie Royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique* (Brussels).

The development of the periodical collection has been one of the primary objectives of the Library administration from the beginning, especially in the sciences, including mathematics, where the journal literature is particularly important. The collection of periodical and serial sets in the sciences may now be considered strong, and the general collection good, though not outstanding in specific fields. Of the important English general and literary magazines, for instance, the Library has long runs of *The Gentleman's Magazine* and the *London Magazine*, and a complete set of the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society. Among more uncommon holdings are sets of the pre-Raphaelite *The Germ*, the *Smart Set*, and *Kokka*, an illustrated journal of the fine and applied arts of Japan and other Eastern countries. A collection of early American periodicals has been purchased on microfilm. American and British general and local historical societies are well represented in the periodical files; of similar interest and importance are the "Victoria County Histories." The periodical collection is being maintained with a current subscription list of over 3000 titles, and by the purchase of back files as they become available and funds permit.

The importance of public documents as fundamental source materials is clearly recognized, and a comprehensive collection of this material has been assembled. The Library has been a depository for Federal documents since 1890. State documentary publications are being systematically collected in cooperation with the Library of the University of North Carolina by an agreement covering a division of responsibility respecting the documents of the various states, to the end that those of all states and territories may be available in this area. A representative collection of European public documents has been assembled, including the *British Parliamentary Papers* (complete from 1925), *Calendar of State Papers*, *Acts of the Privy Council*, Hansard's *Debates*, the *Débats Parlementaires* of the French Senate and Chamber of Deputies, the *Journal Officiel* and the *Bulletin des Lois*, the *Reichs-gesetzblatt* and the *Verhandlungen des Reichstags*, the *Atti* of the Italian Parliament, the *Diario* of the Spanish Cortes, etc. The public documents of the Latin American

countries, especially Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, and Uruguay form one of the strongest units of the Library. There are also files of the publications of the League of Nations, the International Labour Office, the United Nations, and other international organizations.

Supplementing these official documents is the library of Professor Louis Strisower, sometime President of the Institut de Droit International, which contains approximately 5000 volumes dealing with international law dating from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries, and includes some especially valuable periodical files and rare books.

The newspaper collection numbers some 13,000 volumes in original issues, and 1600 rolls of microfilm. Most of the states of the Union are represented, although a large percentage of the papers are from the Atlantic seaboard—about fifty per cent representing the South and thirty per cent the Northeast. Of the eighteenth-century titles, the states best represented are Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, Rhode Island, Georgia, Virginia, North



PART OF THE NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

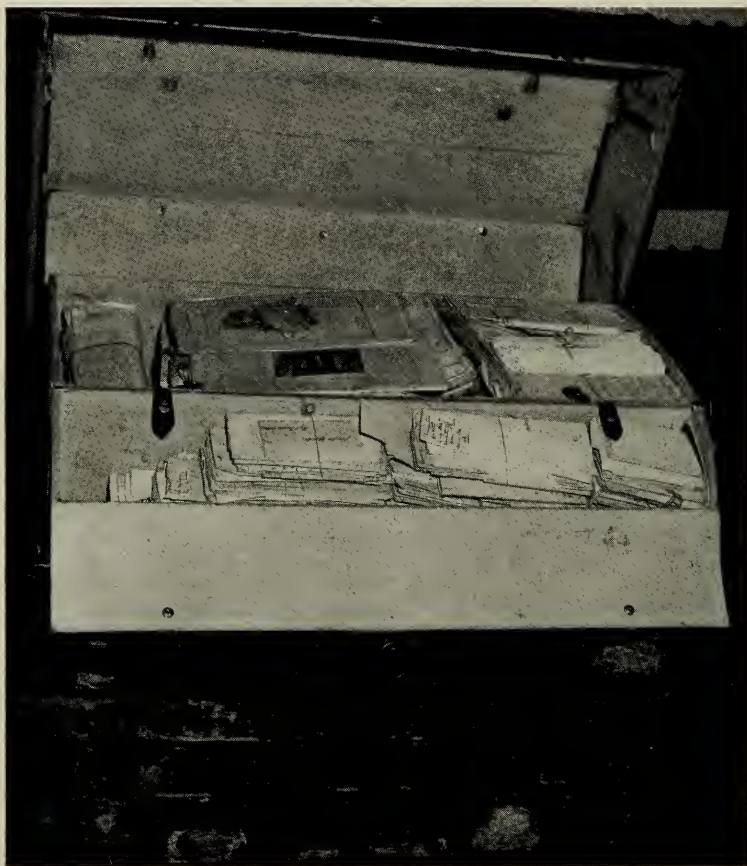


Carolina, and South Carolina. The collection of nineteenth-century New England papers is strong, and the Library has at least one, and generally two or three different New York newspapers for almost every day of the entire nineteenth century. Holdings of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia papers of the Ante-Bellum and Civil War periods are extensive. The years of the first World War are covered by twenty-eight fairly complete files. Of special importance and usefulness among American newspapers are certain major titles in long, almost complete files. The Library has the New Orleans *Abeille*, 1827-1917; the New York *Tribune*, 1841-1909 (the personal file of the editor, Horace Greeley), the New York *Herald*, 1848-1921, and the New York *Herald-Tribune*, 1925 to date; the *New York Times*, 1851 to date; Charlotte (N. C.) *Observer*, 1874 to date; Raleigh (N. C.) *News and Observer*, 1880 to date; Columbia (S. C.) *The State*, 1892 to date; and the Richmond (Va.) *Times-Dispatch*, 1908 to date. A catalog of the holdings of United States newspapers was published by the Library in six parts, 1932-1937. Foreign newspapers include *The Times* (London) from 1785, and about a dozen virtually complete runs of European and Latin American papers from the 1920's and early 1930's. The current subscription list contains seventy titles, about one-half from foreign countries, and the remainder distributed throughout the United States to reflect all geographical influences in editorial viewpoint.

The collection of reference and bibliographic tools has been developed in all fields as an indispensable aid to graduate and advanced research. The collection now contains recent and many older editions of all the major encyclopedias of the world, a large number of statistical and general handbooks and compends, dictionaries, biographical cyclopedias, directories, and similar books. There are many periodical indexes, and the collection of author and subject bibliographies is constantly being increased. There are good files of trade bibliographies, including complete sets of *Book Prices Current* (both British and American), and printed catalogs of many other libraries, such as the British Museum, Bibliothèque Nationale, Library of Congress, the Surgeon-General's Library, and the *Gesamtkatalog der Preussischen Bibliotheken*. In American bibliography there are Evans, Sabin, HARRISSE, the Church and De-Renne catalogs, etc. In other specialized fields the Library has such titles as the *Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke*, as well as the older Hain-Copinger, Brunet, Graesse, the *Catalogue of Scientific Papers* of the Royal Society, the *Catalogue of the Ashley Library*, and many more.

The manuscript collection contains more than one million items, relating

chiefly to the South Atlantic region, many of them acquired through the George Washington Flowers Memorial Fund, established by bequest of his son, William W. Flowers, of the class of 1894, and supplemented by gifts from his other children. Most numerous are records of military, social, and economic life in the Confederate period, including letters, diaries, rosters, military reports, statutes of the Confederate Congress, court records, and papers of various departments of the Confederate Government. The collection, most



A GROUP OF MANUSCRIPTS AS THEY WERE RECEIVED FOR  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FLOWERS COLLECTION

extensive in the field of history, contains valuable information on all phases of social and economic life as well as politics. Outstanding among the many papers providing a well-rounded picture of life in the South during the nineteenth century are original census returns of Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana,

and Tennessee for 1850 and 1860. Numerous large collections bear particularly on the history of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Of interest for historical studies are papers of P. G. T. Beauregard, John C. Calhoun, David Campbell, Robert Carter, Clement C. Clay, Henry Clay, William H. Crawford, John J. Crittenden, Jefferson Davis, Nathanael Greene, Andrew Jackson, Robert E. Lee, Alfred T. Mahan, Alexander H. Stephens, and others. For the later period the papers of Furnifold W. Simmons and Josiah W. Bailey, United States Senators from North Carolina, are significant. The papers of Col. John Dallas Langston, Assistant Director of the Selective Service System during the second World War, and of Capt. Francis Warrington Dawson, late editor of the Charleston (S. C.) *News and Courier*, are recent gifts of unusual interest. The field of American literature is repre-



MANUSCRIPTS AS THEY ARE PRESERVED BY THE LIBRARY



sented by papers of Thomas Holley Chivers, John Esten Cooke, Clara V. Dargan, Paul Hamilton Hayne, George Frederick Holmes, Alexander B. Meek, Thomas Nelson Page, Augustin L. Taveau, and Walt Whitman, and there is also the Frank C. Brown collection of North Carolina folklore, which is now in process of publication. Among other literary manuscripts are interesting groups of papers relating to George Moore, the Rossettis, Robert Southey, and Tennyson. The Library also has the official files of the Socialist Party of America from 1901 to 1938, and a collection of papers of George Holyoake, English cooperator and secularist of the nineteenth century.

There are eleven early Greek manuscripts of importance to biblical scholars, chiefly lectionaries and copies of the New Testament. A thirteenth-century New Testament, and a liturgical scroll of the Byzantine Empire, are noteworthy.

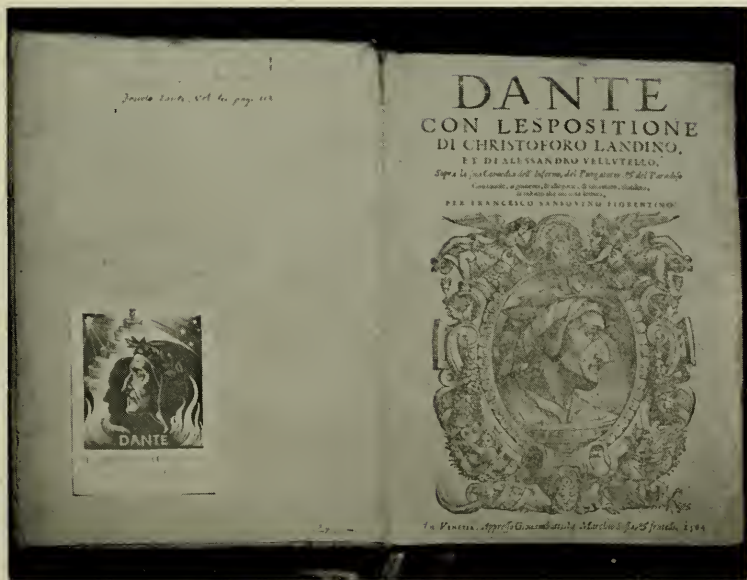
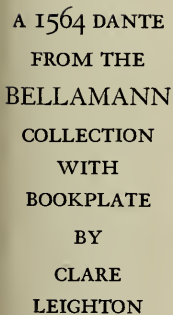
A *Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Duke University Library*, which describes the papers comprising the collections in 1942, was issued in 1947 as Series 27 and 28 of the *Historical Papers of the Trinity College Historical Society*.

A few of the special collections or libraries which have been acquired *en bloc* are mentioned here as an indication both of the strength of the Library and of its collecting activity. There are important collections relating to three South American countries: a Peruvian library of about 7000 books and manuscripts; a library of several thousand volumes dealing with Brazil, including files of the publications of many Brazilian learned societies; and an Ecuadorian collection of about 2000 volumes. The Robertson collection of Philippiniana and the James A. Thomas collection on Chinese history and culture supply unusual resources for the study of the Far East. In European literature there are a Goethe collection of 1000 volumes; a Scandinavian collection of 3000 volumes; Gustave Lanson's library of French literature, comprising some 12,000 books and monographs, including many autographed, presentation, and association copies; the library of the late Professor Guido Mazzoni numbering 23,000 volumes and 67,000 pamphlets and reprints in Italian and comparative literature; and the Henry Bellamann Dante collection of 300 volumes, rich in translations and criticism, which was presented to the Library by Mrs. Katherine Bellamann.

The Holl church history library, dealing primarily with the period of the Reformation, and a collection of many thousands of church minutes and records of American denominational history, are of exceptional importance to the Divinity School. Of interest to students in the social sciences are a collec-



FROM THE  
ARENTS  
COLLECTION



tion of material on the Fourier movement, and a large collection of pamphlets on socialism which supplements the official files of the Socialist Party of America in the Manuscript Department. The George Washington Flowers collection contains, in addition to voluminous manuscript holdings, a notable collection of books, pamphlets, newspapers, and broadsides dealing with all phases of Southern history. A collection of more than 5000 seventeenth and eighteenth-century British pamphlets supplies source materials for the student of the political history and international relations of Great Britain. Mr. George A. Arents, Jr., has presented several hundred volumes relating to the culture and production of tobacco and the manufacture and distribution of tobacco products. The collection includes many rare titles, and an almost complete file of the important journal, *Tobacco*.

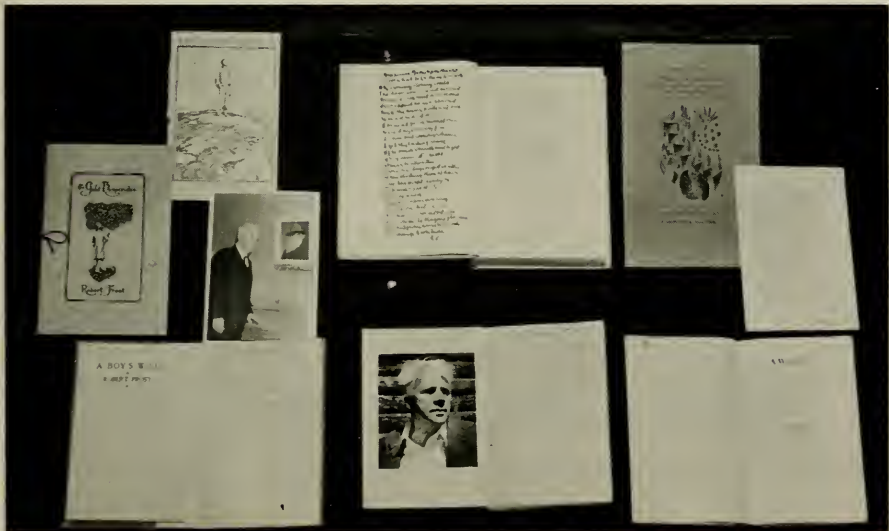
In English literature, emphasis has been placed especially on the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and a number of rarities have been acquired. Two collections of eighteenth-century poetry and prose total about 5000 items, and include rare groups of Johnson, Boswell, and the novelists. In the nineteenth century, there are small collections of Swinburne, Tennyson, and Rossetti, and significant groups of annotated copies and first editions of Coleridge and Byron, the latter purchased with funds presented by the class of 1913. There are also 400 titles in a collection of English drama, principally of the seventeenth century, and more than a hundred rare emblem books gathered over a period of years.



SOUTHERN AMERICANA FROM  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FLOWERS COLLECTION



In American literature, the Paul Hamilton Hayne library strengthens the nineteenth-century holdings; a checklist of this collection was published by the Library in 1930. A more recent acquisition is the Emerson collection formed by the late Carroll A. Wilson, comprising first editions, presentation and association copies, and a few manuscript letters. There is also a Bryant collection of some 200 items, including a number of first editions of his works. In 1943 the late Dr. J. C. Trent and Mrs. Trent presented to the Library their Walt Whitman collection. Two hundred printed volumes are about equally divided between editions of Whitman's writings (including the first and all other important early editions or issues of *Leaves of Grass*), and books and articles in the field of Whitman biography and criticism. With these, nearly 300 manuscripts, about 400 letters, more than thirty pictures, twenty-five pieces of sheet music, and additional miscellanea, make up a collection of major and international importance. A catalog of the Whitman collection was published by the Library in 1945. From the same donors, a small collection of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and many contemporary first editions have strengthened the Library in this important field, as has a Robert Frost collection presented by Rev. George B. Ehlhardt which contains all the books and nearly all the ephemeral and miscellaneous publications, most of them autographed and inscribed by the poet.



PART OF THE EHLHARDT COLLECTION OF ROBERT FROST

*"We Thank With Brief Thanksgiving . . ."*

THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY is supported now, as in the past, by funds appropriated annually by the Trustees from the general income of the University, an allotment from the students' University fees, gifts of books and money from friends, and the income from certain endowments presented to the University specifically for the benefit of the Library. Of these, the George Washington Flowers Memorial Fund provides "for the purchase of manuscripts, books and other printed or photographed materials dealing with the life and thought of the Southern States of the United States of America"; the Henry Harrison Jordan Memorial Foundation supports the Ministers' Loan Library of the Divinity School; other funds provide income for the purchase of books and periodicals in various fields.

Annual gifts of books and expendable funds from many friends over the years—gifts ranging from a single volume to large collections and from a few dollars to many—have played an important part in the development of the Library collections, and will, it is hoped, continue to do so in the future. Of no less importance and equally appreciated has been the intangible gift of sympathetic interest which has led so many to devote their time and thought to the solution of the Library's problems of organization, administration, and acquisition.

To coordinate the interests and activities of those desiring to share in the Library's development, The Friends of Duke University Library was organized in 1935. The society's major purposes are: to strengthen interest in the work of the Library and to further a realization of the present and future importance of the Library to the University's advancement; and to increase the usefulness of the Library to the University community and to scholars generally.

The society meets at least once each year to hear an address by an outstanding librarian, bookman, or scholar, and to discuss means of attaining its stated objectives. It sponsors a Student Book Collectors Group within the University, and offers annual prizes for the best book collections formed by students during their undergraduate years. The organization's bulletin, *Library Notes*, which is sent to all members, carries informative articles about the Library's resources in various fields, its special collections, the results of research

in some of the Library's rare holdings, news of the Library, reports of new acquisitions, and lists of desiderata.

The Duke University Library occupies a building constructed in 1930, enlarged and made more attractive, comfortable, and serviceable in 1949 through the gift of an interested friend. Its collection, started by student societies more than 100 years ago, has grown through the enlightened support of the University administration and the gifts and interest of its friends to become one of the important research resources of the nation. The knowledge and skill of its staff seek constantly to increase the efficiency of its service. To these essential factors of building, collection, and staff, the devotion and activities of The Friends of Duke University Library are adding a spirit which will help the Library not only to fulfill its normal functions, but also to contribute to the educational and cultural benefits of the community and to the world of scholarship and learning.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY





THE NORTH TOWER (1949)  
FROM THE EAST

# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 23

January 1950

## ANCIENT HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS TO BE EXHIBITED AT DUKE

PRELIMINARY arrangements have just been completed for the exhibition at Duke University of three of the ancient Hebrew scrolls which were discovered in the Holy Land in the late summer of 1947. Eight scrolls were found by Bedouin shepherds in a small cave concealed in a cliff near Jericho, overlooking the northern end of the Dead Sea from the west. This is the area of the wilderness of the New Testament, where John the Baptist preached and where Christ underwent His temptation. The arid air of this desert region helped to preserve the parchment scrolls, which were wrapped in linen cloth and sealed in pottery jars characteristic of the Maccabean Age (165—37 B.C.). The Bedouins who discovered the cave sold the scrolls to the Hebrew University and to the Syrian monastery of Saint Mark in Jerusalem. Of the four scrolls purchased by the monastery, three will be exhibited: a virtually complete manuscript of the book of Isaiah, a large fragment of a commentary on Habakkuk, and a manuscript containing a kind of compen-

dium of the doctrines of a still-unidentified Jewish sect. The scrolls have been acclaimed by experts as the greatest single manuscript discovery of modern times, and the most important find ever made in the Holy Land.

The script of the scrolls has been studied by some of the leading authorities on ancient writing, who date them in the last two centuries B.C., and the pottery of the jars in which the scrolls had been deposited is similarly dated by leading archaeological authorities on Palestine. The Isaiah scroll, 22 feet long and in a state of almost perfect preservation, is probably the oldest. It is easily over a thousand years older than the oldest dated Hebrew manuscript of the Bible extant, which is now preserved in Leningrad, and is undoubtedly the oldest manuscript of a book of the Bible that has come down to us in any language. St. Luke (IV: 16-17) describes how Jesus "came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there

was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. . . ." Scholars believe He read from a scroll similar to this. Even the latest of the new documents are prior to the Christian era, and antedate the composition of the oldest book of the New Testament by more than a century. They are thus of extraordinary scholarly importance for the light they throw on the text of the Old Testament and on the background of the New Testament, and for their contribution to our knowledge of Jewish literature and history in the period between the Old and New Testaments.

The scrolls were brought to this country by His Eminence, Athanasius Yeshue Samuel, Archbishop and Metropolitan of Jerusalem and Trans-Jordan and Superior of the Monastery of Saint Mark, through whose generous cooperation the University has been granted the privilege of exhibiting them. The three scrolls were exhibited for the first time anywhere in the world at the Library of Congress from October 23 to November 6, 1949, and shortly thereafter at The Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore. They have not yet been shown at any private institution.

The scrolls will be exhibited at Duke from February 12 to 17 on the steps leading to the chancel of the University Chapel. The exhibition will open at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon, February 12, and the Chapel will remain open until eight o'clock. Monday through Friday, February 13 to 17, the exhibition may be seen from 9:00 a.m.

to 7:00 p.m. The Library will exhibit simultaneously a selection of biblical manuscripts and important printed editions of the Bible from its own collections.

On Thursday evening, February 16, Dr. John C. Trever will deliver the Divinity School Library Lecture on "From Ancient Scroll to Modern Bible" in Page Auditorium at 8:00 o'clock. Dr. Trever is Director of the Department of the English Bible of the International Council of Religious Education, and was Acting Director of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem when the scrolls were discovered.

Volume one of a three-volume study of the scrolls will be published by the American Schools of Oriental Research under the general editorship of Dr. Millar Burrows during the week the scrolls are at Duke. This first volume will contain a reproduction of the text, with critical notes and commentary on the Isaiah scroll by Dr. Trever, and on the Habakkuk scroll by Dr. William H. Brownlee of Duke University.

In view of the importance of this exhibition, The Friends of Duke University Library will forego their annual dinner meeting this year, and in its place will hold a reception for His Eminence, who will be the guest of the University during the week of the exhibition, and Dr. Trever. All members of The Friends will receive invitations to the exhibition, lecture and reception.



# THE MAZZONI LIBRARY

ALLAN H. GILBERT

Professor Gilbert was in Florence during the spring of 1948 on sabbatical leave from his duties as Professor of English at Duke University, and generously agreed to act as agent for the Library in negotiations for the purchase of the Mazzoni library. He also supervised its packing and shipment to Durham. The library was received here in the summer of 1948, and remained in storage until the late summer of 1949 when the completion of new book stacks made space available in which it could be unpacked. It is now being sorted, arranged, and listed. Professor Gilbert offers here a preliminary survey of the collection, based on the material unpacked in the fall of 1949, an incomplete list provided to him by the Mazzoni family in Italy, and his own examination of the library there. Numbers of volumes given throughout this paper are estimates, for the library has not yet been catalogued, and are probably conservative. In addition to the books and pamphlets described here, the Library received also Professor Mazzoni's large collection of notes (*schede*) on his wide reading, many of them of a bibliographical nature.—Editor.

FOR MANY years before 1943 one could often have seen on the streets of Florence a small but distinguished-looking man carrying under his arm a bundle of books. A stranger might have been told, "That is Senator and Professor Guido Mazzoni, of the University of Florence. He seems to have some more books for his private library,

one of the finest in Italy." "Professor Mazzoni must be a rich man, then." "No, the contrary is true. He tells his children: 'I have no money, I have no bonds, I have no lands, but I do have books, and them I shall leave to you.'" These books, numbering about 23,000, were acquired by purchase in 1948 and are now a part of the Duke University Library.

Professor Mazzoni's distinguished career is a kind of guide to the contents of his library. For far from making his collection of books something merely to be treasured and caressed, as it were, he did not let his life sink into his library as a lesser man might have done, but he assembled it and used it as the foundation of his professional activity. After finishing his course of studies at Pisa he became a pupil of Giosuè Carducci at Bologna. Then in turn he taught in schools at Lodi, Pisa, and Rome. In 1887 he was first in the competition for the professorship of Italian literature at the University of Padua. In 1894, when he was thirty-five years old, he was asked without the formalities of a competition to assume the chair of Italian literature, vacated by Adolfo Bartoli, in his native city of Florence. Already his publications had given evidence of his professional abilities; and in addition, his love for human

beings, his vigorous convictions, and his outgoing disposition had shown that he possessed other qualities important for a teacher.

Professor Mazzoni's work was of course chiefly in Italian literature. As early as 1881 he had published an edition of Dante. This was followed by a volume of selections in 1924; and by another edition in 1931. Later he became President of the Società Dantesca Italiana. This interest is represented by some 650 volumes now in our Library, including the chief commentaries and editions and the pertinent periodicals. These, with the complementary Bellamann Collection of over three hundred volumes, recently acquired by gift, bring our Dante collection to a total of some twelve hundred volumes.

Besides Dante, Professor Mazzoni was occupied with Tasso (of whose works he published an edition in 1883 and another in 1925) and Ariosto, whom he edited in 1932. His Tasso collection contains about seventy-five titles including the *Opera* in thirty-three volumes, and many other editions and special studies. His Ariosto collection contains thirteen editions of the *Orlando Furioso*, various editions of the other works, some of them, such as the facsimile of the manuscript of the *Satires*, now rare, and the other primary works for the study of the poet. There is also a collection on the romances of chivalry. Mazzoni edited also Machiavelli's *The Prince*, and his edition of

the *Literary and Historical Works*, done in 1929 with Mario Casella, is now regarded as the best. With these are twenty-four related titles, some of them representing half a dozen volumes, and some eighty works by and about Parini, of whom Mazzoni produced a critical edition in 1925.

Senator Mazzoni's largest work was his *History of Italian Literature in the Nineteenth Century*, in two volumes totaling about 1500 pages. This was issued in 1913 and went through three editions, of which the last was completely redone, and there was an additional printing. Thus the major part of his library was devoted to books dealing with that century. Our preliminary list of these covers about seventy-five closely typed pages, many of the titles representing multi-volume sets; for example, there are two sets of Carducci, one of twenty volumes, the other of thirty-nine.

One of the Senator's early works, often revised, was his *Avviamento allo Studio Critico delle Lettere Italiane*, to a great extent a bibliographical work intended for university students. Many of the works of reference and periodicals mentioned in this volume appear in the collection, such as the *Vocabolario degli Accademici della Crusca*, and *Rassegna Bibliografica della Letteratura Italiana*.

Although he was a President of the Reale Accademia della Crusca, Mazzoni did not confine himself to Italian let-

ters. He published a translation of Catullus, to whom twenty-six volumes in the collection are devoted, and the entire classical section numbers about seven hundred volumes. His translations of Zola and *The Vicar of Wakefield* are supported in the collection by a large number of French and a smaller number of English books. And besides these, other literatures as well as history, politics, philosophy, religion, and the arts are well represented.

Though best known as a scholar, Professor Mazzoni was also a poet who published a number of volumes of verse, entitling him to be called a man of letters in the full sense of the word. Many of the volumes in his library are those he not merely studied as a scholar but read and loved as a poet.

The list of books written by Guido Mazzoni strides through Italian literature from the beginning to the end, and so does that of the books he collected for his library as the basis and background of his study and teaching. It well illustrates the Italian assumption that a professor is to be competent in the whole subject which he "professes," in contrast to our American system, which implies concentration on but a small section of his field. The effect of either system at its worst can be disastrous, producing in one instance superficiality, in the other triviality. At its best, the first gives a wide view yet permits close examination of various elements, some of them far apart; the

other gives a firm core of knowledge that permits new yet firm reinterpretation of the great authors of a single period and furnishes a standpoint from which the world may be surveyed to advantage. One can hardly ask for a better representative of the Italian system than Professor Mazzoni. Within the boundaries which his genius set for him, he ranged all Italian literature, with excursions into other fields. Yet such were his powers for acquisition and retention that his knowledge of various authors was better than that possessed by many a specialist in but one. As a sign of this, his library is at many points such as a specialist may envy. Here are the best texts, however expensive, and the best works of reference published during his long career. There are also many works published earlier. The library is not, however, characterized by rare early editions; there are no incunabula, and few books printed before 1550. The student of Machiavelli will not find a first edition of *The Prince* or the *Discourses on Livy*, but he will see the important edition by Passerini and Milanesi, published about 1875 and now difficult to obtain. Though the student of Ariosto will not find any of the sixteenth-century editions, he will come upon the important reprint of the poet's three editions, issued by the Società Filologica Romana forty years ago in an edition of but three hundred copies, and now almost never offered for sale.

However extraordinary this gathering



of books for the personal use of a scholar and man of letters and of general culture, the Mazzoni library has another part the like of which has perhaps never before been assembled by any individual. This is a collection of pamphlets and reprints estimated to number 67,000 items, arranged in 2239 filing boxes. They deal chiefly with Italian literature, but include many other subjects, even chemistry and scientific topography. A large number are inscribed by the authors to their teacher Professor Mazzoni, with expressions of affection, respect, and gratitude. This gathering of reprinted articles speaks of his success in inspiring his pupils to carry on the work he had shown them how to undertake. It also represents Mazzoni the internationalist, a member of learned societies and friend of students the world over. One reason for the extraordinary number of these reprints is that throughout his long life Mazzoni acknowledged, often with suggestions, all the reprints he received. When a man got such an acknowledgment for a paper that had evidently been read, he was likely to send another. Moreover, men who sent reprints learned that they were cherished. A card with the name of the author and the subject was made out for every paper when received, and further cards added with subject headings, and a reference to the box containing the pamphlet. When the boxes are shelved in order, any pamphlet can be found by

means of this catalog. The common headings for the cards are authors or historical characters, and such words as *Armonia*, *Commedia*, *Dramma*, *Leggenda*, *Lettere*, *Pittura*. There are also many earlier pamphlets other than reprints, which were apparently among his purchases from push-cart venders of books in the streets of Florence. Since Italians have been much given to the printing of pamphlets, such a collection is of unusual value to a student of the literature and history of their country. Some of these pamphlets were issued for special occasions in small editions; they would come into general circulation only on the sale of a collector's library. It is probable that a great many of these pamphlets are to be found in America only in the Mazzoni library. Many, perhaps all, of Senator Mazzoni's articles in periodicals and newspapers are among them.

Professor Mazzoni had for half a century the advantage of the great book mart of Florence, where everything likely to interest him was at once purchasable, and he bought volumes as soon as they appeared. Often the books now most difficult to obtain are those published in the last half century and out of print. Even in the present uncatalogued state of the collection more than one member of the faculty has already found in it volumes now difficult to obtain, in one instance, for example, a volume of a periodical, in another Tiraboschi's work on the writers and

artists of Modena. The Mazzoni library gives us the advantage of the opportunity its builder enjoyed for many years. Still more, it gives us the advantage of his understanding. Here is an instrument for study prepared by one of the foremost workers in the subject, as it were a select bibliography put into material form. The value of such a library, so wisely assembled, is beyond estimate.

This quality of the whole as embodying the daily life of their father was obvious to his children and their families. His son, Professor and Preside Piero Mazzoni, had aided him in recording and indexing reprints. Looking on the whole as their father's monument, they could not think of its dispersal after his death in 1943. Though obliged to dispose of it, they would not consider putting it into commerce; it must go to an institution where all its parts would function together in the researches of other scholars, as they had in that of the founder; thus the work of Senator Mazzoni would continue in the

future. The heirs had no objection to the transfer of this monument to another land, knowing that their father had a vision of the unity of the intellectual world. Did not the publications of Guido Mazzoni, the books in varied languages that he bought, affirm this international view? "I believe that my father's spirit is satisfied," declared Professor Piero Mazzoni when the sale to Duke University had been made.

Before purchasing the Mazzoni library, the Duke University Library had already acquired by slow degrees a collection of Italian books that won praise from Professor Napoleone Orsini, lecturer here for two years, formerly of the University of Florence and now head of the department of comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin. On this excellent foundation are placed the books and pamphlets of the Mazzoni library. Duke now offers to students of Italian literature from the earliest times to the present a working collection worthy of comparison with any in America.

# THE RACE RELATIONS COLLECTION OF THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

HOWARD E. JENSEN

**A**MONG the important collections of research materials now available in the Duke University Libraries is that on Race and Race Relations. It is rapidly gaining recognition as one of the most distinguished in its field and is being increasingly used by visiting scholars. It is the chief source of information on its subject in the South, and compares favorably with any similar collection anywhere in the world. For example, two recent manuscripts, one on "The Evolution of Slave Songs of the United States," and another on "African Churches in America," have been written almost entirely from these materials. The historian and author, Dr. Mark Miles Fisher, has recently paid tribute to the adequacy of this collection, stating that, since becoming acquainted with its resources several years ago, he has found it unnecessary to continue his visits to research centers elsewhere.

The collection originated in the interests in Southern History of the late Professor William Kenneth Boyd, who was for forty years connected with Trinity College and Duke University as Professor of History, Chairman of the Department, and Director of Libraries. In the latter capacity he contributed much to the development of the Li-

brary to its present position among the academic libraries of the nation. In cooperation with Professor William T. Laprade and his colleagues of the History Department and with the hearty support of the late President William Preston Few, he began a collection of books, pamphlets, letters, and manuscripts dealing with Southern problems. There was naturally considerable material on the Negro in this collection. Later the George Washington Flowers Memorial Fund, established by the late William W. Flowers and supplemented by gifts from other members of his family, became available for the purchase of Southern literature and other material bearing upon the history, economic conditions, racial problems, and other factors in Southern life.

With the establishment of the Department of Sociology in 1931 the collection began to take on wider scope. Whereas the chief interest had previously been historical, regional, and practical, the new Department decided to use the funds available to it in developing the collection along sociological, anthropological, theoretical, and international lines, which had heretofore been neglected, with a view to making it an outstanding research section of national significance in Physical and



Cultural Anthropology, Race and Race Relations.

Further progress was made in 1935, when the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation made an appropriation of \$50,000 to strengthen the library facilities of the area served by Duke University and the University of North Carolina. The present writer at that time suggested that the funds allotted to the Department of Sociology would best realize the purposes of the grant if devoted to the further development of this section along lines already projected by the Department. This suggestion was adopted, and has been continued as a basic policy of library development ever since.

Sound theoretical and practical considerations have underlain this policy. Anthropology provides an indispensable theoretical background for the study of race, and the latter in turn constitutes the most chronic and pervasive of the social problems of the South. Every phase of Southern life is complicated by it, all other Southern problems are implicated in it, and every realistic proposal to deal with them must come to terms with it. But unless regional problems are studied in proper perspective, as local differentiations within the national and world structure of human interests and problems, the present regional emphasis in social science research is in danger of becoming merely a new form of sectionalism. It was to provide a background for the study of Southern

problems and to make the collection valuable to scholars whose interests are national and international in scope that the Department of Sociology and Anthropology initiated the policy which has given to the collection its present distinctive character. In this endeavor it has had the cooperation and support of the University Administration and of the related Departments and Schools of the institution.

When Professor Edgar T. Thompson joined the Sociology staff in the autumn of 1935 he assumed responsibility for the further development of this project. During the same year a Division of Cooperation in Education and Race Relations was organized in North Carolina through a cooperative arrangement entered into by the General Education Board, Duke University, the University of North Carolina, and the State Department of Public Instruction, under the leadership of Mr. N. C. Newbold, Director of the Division of Negro Education in the State Department, as Director. As part of the program of the Division a generous contribution was made each year from resources supplied by the General Education Board to supplement the regular funds of both Universities for the purchase of books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and other materials dealing with the Negro and the subject of race generally, with special stress, under the leadership of Professor Thompson, on the worldwide sociological aspects of the prob-

lem. Beginning about 1938 an annual contribution was also made to North Carolina College at Durham to enable its Library to participate in this program. Since the termination of the work of the Division in 1945 the Library Council of Duke University has continued to make special annual appropriations to secure additional significant materials recommended for purchase by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. At the present time these three libraries contain more than 13,000 volumes, exclusive of duplicates, and extensive periodical, pamphlet and manuscript material, on all aspects of race and race relations, historical, scientific and regional, national and international, as well as a carefully selected and representative section of more general works in Physical and Cultural Anthropology.

The original reasons which led to the initiation of this project have grown more convincing with the years. The events leading up to and following from the second World War have compelled our ever widening recognition of the fact that the problems which disturb the Southern scene duplicate the larger problems of the nation and of the world. The clash of races and cultures in the South represents within our borders the same generic issues which we recently faced in battle over seas, and which continue to threaten us on the farther shores of the world's major oceans. If it should happen that we

must fight another war, we can ill afford to enter it under the handicap of racial bitterness and tension. If we do, we cannot hope to win it against an enemy prepared to exploit such divisions to the fullest possible extent. Toleration of racial and cultural differences and the reduction of racial and cultural tensions may turn out in the end to be not merely a democratic duty, but a necessity of national survival; not merely a romantic ideal, but the only realistic program of political and social action.

But such a transcendence of our present domestic racial divisions cannot be achieved without perspective. When the attention of human beings is centered on the achievement of immediate group ends, when they are busy outmaneuvering and frustrating one another in the struggle for position and power within the framework of social and political order, they come to live in an atmosphere of suspicion and apprehension which enters into their souls at every turn. Group cleavages deepen and widen until all sense of the genuine underlying unities of interest and purpose which bind them together as a nation with a common past and a common destiny, is lost in a morass of irrational impulse and blind feeling. Only as men gain some measure of that balance between the immediate present, the historical past, and the potential future which is the essence of perspective, can they achieve a more realistic

appraisal of their problems, and choose more rational and constructive means to their adjustment.

The race problem will not be solved by the multiplication of books dealing with it, but the large collection of race literature available in the Duke University and adjacent libraries of North Carolina College at Durham and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill can and should be of immense service in contributing to the perspectives essential to its alleviation. Here are the materials which will enable one to understand the Southern race problem in the situational context in which it arose and took form, in terms of the historical conditions under which it developed, in the light of its costs to the Nation in lowered domestic welfare and reduced international prestige, and against the background of racial problems in other parts of the world.

But these materials will have little effect unless they are made readily accessible to both the scholarly and lay reading public. To this end Professor Edgar T. Thompson and his wife, Alma Macy Thompson, have prepared an introduction and descriptive selected bibliography under the title, *Race and Region*, recently published by the University of North Carolina Press. The book lists and annotates about two thousand titles selected from the collections of the three institutions, and indicates the library in which each title may be found. Many of them are held by

each institution and practically all of them are available in the Duke University Libraries.

It should be noted, however, that *Race and Region* is something more than a sampling of the holdings of three local university and college libraries. If it were only this its usefulness would be limited to the area served by these libraries. But such is not the case. The two thousand titles were taken from the whole body of racial literature generally and, as far as possible, purchases were made by the Duke University Library to fill in such gaps as existed in the local library holdings in the field of race relations. For this reason the bibliography ought to be useful to students of the subject throughout the United States and particularly throughout the South. That the book is generally useful is indicated by one reviewer, Professor Paul B. Foreman, who, in the *Southwestern Social Science Quarterly*, says: "Having devoted considerable time . . . to the creation of a similar list, the present reviewer recommends *Race and Region* without qualification as the most complete and critical bibliographic guide available in this interest area. Obviously, it offers two immediate services: first, it is strong support for course work; second, it places within easy reach a dependable device for surveying library holdings and planning careful purchasing. It is sufficiently comprehensive in this latter



regard to be of value in large as well as small schools."

The titles have been classified to serve the needs of teachers, students, and general readers rather than research specialists. For it is the former who must create the broad basis of public opinion essential to the reduction of racial tensions, while no system of classification can adequately parallel the interests of the latter or logically arrange the contents of any collection. For the interests of research are as many and varied as the researchers themselves, and contents of books and articles simply will not fit into the systematic categories of any logical scheme.

What men think and feel about racial and cultural differences is at least as important in defining the race problem as what, on competent scientific research, these differences turn out to be. For men respond, not to the objective situations in which they find themselves, but to the subjective meanings which those situations have acquired in their personal and social experience. Consequently, the books selected for the bibliography cover not only what is objectively *true* about these differences, but what is subjectively *felt* about them. Their authors, says Professor Thompson, include

. . . all manner of people; people who have, however, one thing in common, namely, the itch to write. They are the letter writers, the diary keepers, the story

tellers, and those who like to recount their experiences and to report their discoveries. They are people who feel cheated of an experience or of an opinion unless it is told. The literature on the Negro and other racial groups . . . is extraordinarily varied and fascinating, a veritable human anthology . . .

Most of this literature is controversial in character. Much of it is theological or pseudo-scientific, intended to prove dogmas of long standing. Opinions are not now so dogmatic as they once were, but in the hands of popular writers the facts are capable of almost as many different interpretations as they were fifty years ago. Especially significant is the rise of a literature of counter attack.

To the student of human nature, none of this literature is unimportant. Even the literature of misconception . . . is interesting and valuable as a record of the sentiments and attitudes which the racial struggle has called forth. The strange distortion of fact and opinion which it records is significant, not for what it tells us about the Negro or any other racial group, but for what it reveals of the intensity of the racial conflict and of the nature of the passions involved.

This bibliography contains samples of all these varieties of race literature, but the emphasis is upon the more serious studies of social scientists. Competent and systematic studies of race and the relationships of race are appearing in larger number than ever before. The definitive study of race relations, however, has not yet appeared. With such a wealth of racial and human material awaiting scientific interpretation before them, social scientists interested in this field have no need to occupy themselves with mere historical and literary trivia.

# AN UNCOLLECTED WALT WHITMAN LETTER

ROBERT R. HUBACH\*

IN THE possession of the University of California at Berkeley is an uncollected letter of Walt Whitman addressed to David L. Lezinsky, a one-time resident of Berkeley and a member of the 1884 graduating class of the University there. Since it is dated November 30, 1890, Lezinsky was evidently a young man at the time. Although the time and place Whitman met him are unknown, the tone of the note seems to indicate that the two men were well acquainted. It is written in the despondent mood characteristic of much of Whitman's later life. The paper on which it appears is rather fragile and yellowed and the handwriting is shaky. The contents furnish additional details about the poet and help complete the picture of his declining years:<sup>1</sup>

Camden

New Jersey

Nov: 30 1890

My dear D L

Yr's of 21<sup>st</sup> rec'd & welcomed—the C[letter illegible, but probably an a]: papers rec'd—I am sitting here 2<sup>d</sup> story room<sup>2</sup> in big ratan chair with wolf-skin spread back—pretty cold spell of weather here but sun out today pleasant. Am getting along much in the same old way, rather a let down in health even fr'm what it was—grip (pretty bad) bladder

\* Dr. Hubach is Assistant Professor of English at Bowling Green State University, Ohio, and came upon this unpublished Whitman letter in the course of research for his doctoral dissertation, *Walt Whitman and the West*, presented at Indiana University.

<sup>1</sup> The letter is quoted with the kind permission of the University of California (Berkeley) General Libraries.

trouble & (probably) catarrh of bowels—but I keep up sort o' & was out yesterday noon [for] a short jaunt in wheel chair—have a good oak fire & comfortable & plenty to eat (but no appetite)—Ed Stead (driver hansom) was here Aug: 20 last—haven't seen him since—I never heard whether you rec'd the books I sent you by express package directed to you care O K Ferris Hotel Butte City Montana (sent June 4 last from here)—when you next write tell me.—Ingersoll's lecture on me<sup>3</sup> here is to be printed in a little book in N. Y. & I will send it [to] you soon as I get it—Warren Fritzinger is still with me—Mrs: Davis is well<sup>4</sup>—Have had a depress'd gloomy week—my brother Jeff (T. J. Whitman) died last Tuesday in St. Louis, Mo: was a civil engineer—Hear often fr'm Dr Bucke my Canada friend—Horace Traubel comes in every day<sup>5</sup>—I contemplate a little 2<sup>d</sup> annex to L of G. & am fashioning at it<sup>6</sup>—am writing a little for outside (for order)—but pieces I volunteer (to magazines &c) are quite always sent back rejected. I suppose you got my last I sent.

God bless you.

Walt Whitman

<sup>2</sup> Whitman's bedroom in his house at 328 Mickle Street, Camden.

<sup>3</sup> Shortly before this Robert Ingersoll delivered a Whitman benefit lecture in Philadelphia entitled "Liberty in Literature."

<sup>4</sup> Warren Fritzinger was Whitman's young male nurse and Mrs. Davis was his housekeeper.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Richard Maurice Bucke of London, Ontario, and Horace Traubel were intimate friends of Whitman; Bucke wrote the first biography of the poet, to which Whitman himself contributed many passages, and Traubel wrote the three-volume *With Walt Whitman in Canada*. These two men, with Thomas Biggs Harned, were Whitman's literary executors, and Bucke's own collection of Whitman books and manuscripts forms the core of the Trent Whitman collection in the Duke University Library.

<sup>6</sup> The second annex to *Leaves of Grass*, entitled *Good-Bye My Fancy*, was published the following year in Philadelphia by David McKay.

## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### FORMAL OPENING OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING

THE FRIENDS of Duke University Library joined the Trustees and Faculty of the University in entertaining a large number of distinguished guests at the formal opening of the enlarged General Library building on Friday evening, October 21, 1949. The Library opening was planned as a feature of a three-day program marking the installation of Arthur Hollis Edens as President of the University; exercises in Page Auditorium at 8:30 o'clock were followed by the President's inaugural reception in the Library building.

Mr. Willis Smith, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Duke University, presided at the program in Page Auditorium. After welcoming the guests, he called on Dr. William H. Irving, chairman of the Department of English, to introduce the speaker, Mr. Norman Cousins, editor of the *Saturday Review of Literature*. Following Mr. Cousins's address, Mr. Smith acknowledged the gift which had made possible the Library building program and announced that the donor was Mrs. Mary Duke Biddle, a life member of The Friends of Duke University Library. Mrs. Biddle was seated on the platform and rose to acknowledge the applause of the audience. Mr. Smith then pre-

sented the keys to the building to Dr. B. E. Powell, Librarian, and invited members of the audience to attend the reception in the Library, when they would have an opportunity to inspect the newly completed building.

President and Mrs. Edens received in the Public Catalog Room at the head of the main stairway in the southeast tower, and refreshments were served in the Reference and General Reading Room. From the Reference Room guests were directed by members of the student staff of the Library on a brief tour of the principal parts of the building, terminating in the new Rare Book Room, where Mrs. Biddle received. Copies of a special issue of *Library Notes*, published in celebration of the opening of the building, were presented to guests in the Rare Book Room.

An exhibit of representative books from eight of the Library's special collections was arranged near the Main Loan Desk, and in the Rare Book Room and adjoining lobby there was an exhibit of the work of famous printers and printing presses of all periods. Members of the faculty assisted the Library staff as hosts, and some 1500 guests attended.

On her arrival at the Library from Page Auditorium, Mrs. Biddle was presented by The Friends of the Library with a sheaf of red roses and a finely



printed scroll signed by the entire Executive Committee. The scroll read as follows:

"The Friends of Duke University Library wish to express to you, Mary Duke Biddle, deep appreciation for your gift of the magnificent addition to the General Library Building which we formally open tonight.

"The development of the collections of printed and manuscript resources on this campus to a position of national importance has been watched with interest and with pride. The inadequacies of the Library building for the suitable care of priceless possessions, resulting in serious handicaps to scholars engaged in research, have been a source of concern in recent years. This new addition provides exceptional facilities for the preservation of materials, and comfortable and attractive quarters for their fruitful use by students, faculty, and staff. Its completion has contributed significantly to the morale and spirit of the University community. No gift could bring more satisfying response than the expressions of gratitude heard daily from those who use the Library.

"It is, therefore, with real understanding and appreciation of the great significance of your gift to Duke University that we, the Executive Committee of the Friends of Duke University Library, thank you on behalf of the many friends of the University and of the Library."

## NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS

TWO RECENT acquisitions of more than usual importance and value will be of interest to Friends. The Rev. George B. Ehlhardt presented to the Library, in recognition of the opening of the enlarged building on October 21, a copy of the new World Bible, designed by Bruce Rogers and printed in an edition of only 975 copies. This new Bible, a folio King James version, was projected to meet the need for a suitable gift to churches, schools, and other institutions as a memorial to those lost in the Second World War, and to appeal to lovers of fine printing in general. It is printed in Goudy Bible, a new type face adapted by Mr. Rogers from Frederic Goudy's Newstyle and used here for the first time. The decorations, made entirely from type ornaments, are intended to give a slightly oriental flavor to the volume in recognition of the Syriac and Hebrew sources of the text on which the King James translation was based. Presswork is by A. Colish of New York, and the paper was especially made for this work by the Worthy Paper Company. The volume is bound in heavy boards covered with maroon buckram stamped with various Biblical emblems in gold.

Another Greek manuscript lectionary has just been acquired by purchase from Martin Breslauer of London. This will become Duke Greek MS 12 in a collection of New Testament manuscripts in Greek believed to be exceeded in size

by only six other collections in this country. The manuscript dates from the latter half of the 11th or early 12th century and is written on vellum (220 leaves) in two columns of twenty-nine lines. The text is in a fine regular hand, and there are interesting initial letters and chapter headings drawn by pen in red ink. The manuscript is large (10 x 13 inches) and in superb condition, protected by a modern binding of heavy oak boards backed with purple morocco and fastened with two clasps of plaited morocco thongs. Several years ago Professor Kenneth W. Clark described for readers of *Library Notes* the Greek New Testament manuscripts then in the collection (GK. MSS. 1-7).<sup>\*</sup> When he returns from his current sabbatical leave, it is hoped that he will supplement this with a paper on GK. MSS. 8-12. Professor Clark is spending the year in Jerusalem as annual professor at the American Schools of Oriental Research.

Mrs. Newman Ivey White has presented to the Library the manuscripts and personal papers of her husband, the late Professor White, and several hundred volumes from his library. Among the papers are Professor White's correspondence with former students, his publishers, and with Shelley scholars throughout the world.

Mrs. James A. Thomas has added to the furnishings of the Thomas Room in the Woman's College Library two

pairs of large antique Chinese vases of exceptional beauty.

### STUDENT COLLECTORS

THE student book collectors group held its first meeting of the year in the Rare Book Room on November 14, when Professor Arthur B. Ferguson outlined the history of book-binding, describing and demonstrating the various techniques of hand-binding, and showing examples of his own work. The January meeting will be held at The Seeman Printery in Durham, where Mr. Edwin Fowler, President, will describe the processes of book manufacture and show various presses and other machines in action.

Professor Lewis Patton again heads the 'Friends' Advisory Committee directing the activities of the student group.

### NEW MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MR. J. Welch Harriss and Dr. Warner Lee Wells have accepted invitations to serve on the Executive Committee of The Friends. Mr. Harriss, a graduate of Duke in 1927, is President of Harriss and Covington Hosiery Mills of High Point, and a trustee of the University, elected by the alumni. Dr. Wells, a practicing surgeon in Durham, is a graduate of the class of 1934, and of the School of Medicine, 1938. He is at present in Japan with the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission.

<sup>\*</sup> *Library Notes*, no. 16 (June 1946), pp. 1-5.

# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

July 1950

Number 24

NEWMAN IVEY WHITE MEMORIAL ISSUE

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY · DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA



COPYRIGHT, 1950, DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

## FOREWORD

THE death of Newman Ivey White on December 6, 1948, took from the realm of English letters one of its most eminent figures, and from Duke University a brightest star in its group of scholars and teachers. To a wide circle of friends, colleagues, and students there came the shocking sense of irreparable loss. The Duke University Library, and especially the organization of the Friends of Duke University Library, were deprived of a devoted friend, wise counsellor, and generous donor. At a meeting of the Executive Committee of The Friends on December 15, 1948, the following statement was read into the minutes:

The Executive Committee of the Friends of Duke University Library wishes to attempt some expression, however imperfect, of its sense of loss at the death of its distinguished, loyal, and beloved member, Newman Ivey White.

Professor White was a member of the Friends from the beginning, and indeed promoted their aims long before the organization itself came into being; there is scarcely any part of the Library which has not known his beneficent influence. For nearly thirty years he advised in the development of the Library's resources in his several fields of interest. Furthermore, his fame as a scholar gained him acquaintance with private collectors abroad and brought to the Rare Book Room some of its most prized volumes. He also enriched the Library's holdings by his personal gifts. But in another and perhaps still more important way he was a benefactor to the Library: he used the materials from its collections and the skill of its staff to aid him in his scholarly and creative work; thus he brought to fruition the very purposes for which the Library was founded. We like to remember that much of the arduous labor which went into his life of Shelley was done in our stacks and in his study within the walls of our building. His acknowledgments of assistance from the Library carried its name around the world. It was only natural that in 1947 Professor White should be made a Life Member of the Friends; in honoring him we honored ourselves.

The word "Friend" is especially appropriate to Newman White—this firm, kind, zealous friend, whose place in our councils and in our hearts can never be adequately filled.

It is not without significance that the last published writing from Newman White's pen should have been a poem in the July, 1948, issue of LIBRARY NOTES on the pleasures of reading rare book catalogues. So it is peculiarly appro-

priate that the Friends of Duke University Library should have the privilege of offering this special issue of their bulletin as a memorial to him. Through the kindness of Mrs. White, a considerable body of hitherto unpublished material has been made available to us. The papers selected for inclusion here represent two types of writing at which Newman White was equally successful—the formal, scholarly (though never dull) address, and the informal essay. From a sheaf of verse, a group of sonnets on Wordsworth shows his insight into the philosophy and personality of the poet; “The Inner Fortress” gives us a glimpse of the charm of his own personality and the sources of its strength; other poems, expressing his joy in nature and his belief in man, show his exceptional lyric gift.

Professor James Cannon III, a friend since undergraduate days at Trinity College, and Professor Lewis Patton, his colleague in the English Department since 1926, have prepared the biographical sketch. The editor has contributed the bibliography. Publication of this issue has been made possible by gifts to the Friends designated in memory of Newman White.

Who are we  
To speak of beauty fading? It abides  
Within the mind more firmly, being gone:

...

the loveliness that glides  
Not past, but forward, always moving on.





NEWMAN IVEY WHITE



# NEWMAN IVEY WHITE: SCHOLAR AND HUMANITARIAN

FEBRUARY 3, 1892 - DECEMBER 6, 1948

JAMES CANNON III and LEWIS PATTON

NO HUMAN BEING has ever completely understood another personality. There are veils upon veils (to use a Shelleyan figure) which conceal (or should I say protect?) that utter loneliness which stands desperately at bay or seeks desperately to escape, in the far recesses of every human personality."

Thus wrote our friend Newman White in his "Adventures of a Biographer," and his words must rouse misgivings in the mind of anyone who sets himself the serious task of telling the story of a life. Certainly the force of this quotation is not lost upon the present writers. But as White went on to say of Shelley, "some of the outermost veils are penetrated by the biographer," and just as he felt that "I cannot claim that I have ever seen Shelley plain," so we who write this sketch of him, even though we knew him outwardly for many years, do not claim completely to have grasped the meaning of his full and fruitful life, lived in the Trinity College and Duke University community for thirty-five years. Fortunately, a man of letters leaves upon his readers an impression of himself which, though often subtle and evanescent, is yet truthful and significant. In the verse and prose of Newman White, some of which is preserved in this issue of LIBRARY NOTES, will be found the qualities of the inner being. Our account will be largely of the outer life, the life which the world could see.

Newman Ivey White was born on February 3, 1892, in Statesville, North Carolina; later the family moved to Greensboro, where his father, James Houston White, died in 1912. His mother, Harriet Moore Ivey, survived until 1943. His maternal grandfather, the Reverend George Washington Ivey, was a celebrated minister of the Methodist Church who is commemorated in the Ivey Professorship of the History of Religion and Missions in the Duke Divinity School. An uncle, the Reverend Thomas Neal Ivey, was also an influential minister in the Methodist Church, and an editor of several of its principal organs. Other uncles are J. B. Ivey of Charlotte, and George



F. and E. C. Ivey of Hickory, North Carolina. An aunt, Mrs. George M. Foard, lives in Statesville, where Newman White is buried; his sister, Mrs. Hugh J. Toland, lives in Asheville, and a brother, James Ivey White, in Atlanta.

Newman White entered Trinity College in the fall of 1909. Here he received the nickname used universally in early days, "Ni." He embraced college life with gusto. He had a passion for sports, and had played football in high school, but Trinity College in those days had no team, so he had to content himself with basketball, baseball (he was a southpaw pitcher), track, and tennis. His success was the more remarkable when one considers that he was handicapped then, as later, by poor vision. Concentrating chiefly on tennis, he was a member of the varsity team for three years, and captain and manager for two. He later coached the Trinity-Duke tennis teams for many years, and if the authors' memories serve them, his crafty left-handed shots were still too much for the undergraduates when he finally gave up the game. Visitors to the Whites' house may recall seeing in a cupboard an array of trophy cups, won in many matches.

But he was from the first a student and writer. Besides his active participation in the literary and scholastic societies, he was a notable contributor to the literary magazine, *The Archive*, in which he published much excellent verse. He was elected editor of *The Archive* for his senior year, but for some reason did not serve, possibly because he was also editor-in-chief of the *Chanticleer*, the yearbook which he had helped to found in his junior year, and which he had named:

The feathered songster, Chaunticleer,  
Han wounde his bugle horne,  
And tolde the earlie villager  
The commynge of the morne.

In looking back through the *Chanticleer* for 1913, one of the present writers recognized his own thumb-nail sketch of Newman White, the editor:

'Ni'—A man of varied talents—athlete, writer, editor—one of the brightest of the many stars of 1913. Great on figuring, both on questionable and creditable propositions. Has figured out the creditable parts of this volume, and also a method of blaming the poorer parts on assistants. A poet of note, a terror of a tennis player, and an appreciative hearer of all things humorous and esthetic, queer as the combination may be. Man of many interests and faithful to all. Ambition is to teach English, for which he is abundantly fitted.

A teacher White was born to be. His trend to the academic began in college where he was an assistant in Latin and in English, and also in the library. Following his graduation in 1913, *magna cum laude* and with highest honors in English, he remained at Trinity for a year as a graduate student and assistant in English, and obtained his M.A. in 1914. He proceeded to Harvard University where he earned the degrees of M.A. in 1915 and Ph.D. in 1918. In the meantime, he had filled an instructorship in English at Alabama Polytechnic Institute (1915-1916), and was promoted to a professorship there. But after receiving his doctorate at Harvard, he went instead to Washington University in St. Louis as instructor in English for the year 1918-1919. Then was resumed his long and vital connection with his alma mater. From 1919 to 1948 he was professor of English at Trinity (and Duke), and from 1943 chairman of the English Department. His teaching career also included the summer sessions of other universities: Texas in 1930, Harvard in 1939, and Minnesota in 1941. Calls to other universities were not infrequent, but it was his deliberate choice to invest his talents and his life in his own university. Perhaps he remembered the words of the Harvard sage, George Herbert Palmer: "Attach yourself to institutions." In truth he loved Duke and the state of North Carolina. It is to the credit of the University that he found here an environment and an atmosphere, which he had no small part in creating, congenial to his powers and tastes. He moved in all circles of the University, and was respected in all.

As a teacher White was remarkable not for any single or spectacular quality, but rather for the richness and comprehensiveness of his endowment. Sound, honest, witty, natural, often inspiring—he practiced his profession on the highest level, as the results abundantly proved, for an unusually large proportion of his students went into teaching, literature, and allied professions. The same qualities contributed to his equal distinction in research, and made him an excellent example of how sound teaching and productive research may be combined in one individual, as he himself believed they could and should be. "The antagonism of teaching and research is not a natural, but a manufactured one," he wrote in an article, "Teaching versus Research," in *School and Society* for January 23, 1932.

If we consider the qualities most essential to the real value of both research men and teachers we find them surprisingly similar. By common agreement, they are honesty, tolerance, industry, mental alertness. Parenthetically, the same may be said of preachers. The good teacher, however, needs one quality that is not essential to the research worker, namely, a pleasing personality, since

his contribution depends largely on personal contacts. But when we analyze this quality we find its chief ingredient to be a kind of imaginative sympathy, something that is also necessary to the good research worker.

Famous chiefly for his interpretations of the Romantic poets, he was also deeply conscious that literature is a living thing. Through his verse-writing class, especially, which for many years met often at his home, he exerted a great influence upon student writers of many college generations. One remembers particularly the brilliant *Archive* group of 1926, but there were many others, before and since. Readers of this issue of LIBRARY NOTES are indebted to these verse-writing classes, for some of the poems printed here spring from his inability to resist joining in the fun.

No account of Newman White's life would be complete without mention of the powerful influence of Mrs. White in inspiring his scholarly achievements and promoting his social enjoyments. She was Marie Anne Updike, born in Belleville, Illinois, and reared in St. Louis, where she was educated in the public schools and in Washington University, from which she received the A.B. degree in 1915 and the M.A. in 1919. She met Newman White in 1919 as a member of his graduate class, and they were married on August 10, 1922. A daughter, Marie, born in 1926, died in infancy. In 1927, Mrs. White began a distinguished career as a teacher at Duke, most notably as a lecturer on the modern drama. As a hostess she has made an equally great contribution. Their home was a place of liberal thought and free discussion, as well as of lively merriment. It was the center for a group of devoted friends both in the University and in the city of Durham, and the place of entertainment of many guests from other universities. The Whites were masters of apt quotation and repartee, serving beautifully as foils for each other's wit.

One of the many interests which they shared and enjoyed together was one for song. It is characteristic that this interest was not confined to an academic zeal for collecting and annotating; they liked to sing and did so on frequent occasions in a most agreeable manner. As a scholar, Professor White was especially learned in Negro song and made two major contributions in the field of Negro folklore: *An Anthology of Verse by American Negroes* (with W. C. Jackson), 1924, and *American Negro Folk-Songs*, 1928. This last was one of the series of works published by the Harvard University Press in realization of the aim of Kittredge and Child to give permanent form to American folklore. Its publication brought him recognition as a leading authority on folklore, and he was consulted in this capacity by the staff of the Library of Congress, who recommended his book as a model for other



works in the field. Many of the songs in this collection were contributed by Negro friends who came to the Whites' house to sing them, Mr. White transcribing the words and Mrs. White the music. Newman White enjoyed this opportunity of extending his friendships among the Negro race. The interest in folklore was dormant until 1943, when he assumed the general editorship of the Frank C. Brown Collection of North Carolina Folklore, to which he had from time to time contributed many items, including recordings of songs. This monumental work, financed by the Rockefeller Foundation and Duke University, was interrupted by his death.

Great as was his contribution to folklore, the realm of scholarship to which White's name will be forever linked is the study of the poet Shelley. For the origin and growth of this interest, we have White's own statement at the time of the publication of his *Shelley*:

I first became interested in Shelley through a term paper in Professor Irving Babbitt's class at Harvard in 1915. My first attitude toward Shelley was rather hostile than sympathetic. The term paper grew into a Ph.D. thesis on *Shelley's Dramatic Poems* in 1918. But from 1916 to 1928, though I was publishing a number of articles in scholarly journals on Shelley and his contemporaries, probably my major interest was Negro poetry and folk-song, on which I published two books and several articles. During these years I was teaching Shelley's poetry every year, and writing articles and notes about him. After 1928 the Shelley interest intensified, and produced more articles. I have done my library research mainly in the following libraries: Harvard, New York Public Library, Library of Congress, Bodleian, British Museum, Duke University—though I have corresponded with scores of libraries and individuals everywhere. I was particularly fortunate in having the interest and encouragement of the late Mr. T. J. Wise, friend of many of the Victorian Shelleyans and owner of the greatest collection of Shelleyana, who had written much on Shelley himself. He placed at my disposal his whole library, including important basic materials never accessible to other Shelleyans since Dowden used them. During his last illness, he talked with me several hours a week, placing his memory at my disposal and offering hints for the location of lost material. It was he who first encouraged me to write a biography of Shelley.

Leaving aside articles in learned journals (listed in the bibliography of White's published work), the first published fruit of his interest was the anthology of Shelley's writings called *The Best of Shelley* (1932). This still remains the most comprehensive and authoritative commentary on Shelley; in the few places where it is obsolete, it is usually because of White's own later researches. In the next book on Shelley, *The Unextinguished Hearth*:

*Shelley and his Contemporary Critics* (1938), White exploded the view that Shelley was a neglected poet in his day and revealed instead that "Shelley's contemporary critics were not blind to his genius, but merely afraid of it." This fear was based on both political and aesthetic considerations. The researches done in preparation for these volumes expanded White's knowledge of source materials and made ever more secure his understanding of the thought and personality of the poet. He felt at length prepared for the great work of his life, and that he was not mistaken is apparent in the easy mastery which pervades the pages of his *Shelley*, which Alfred Knopf published in two volumes in 1940.

To speak properly of this book it may be better to shift to the comments of others, rather than to risk a charge of undue local pride. Though the tone of the excerpts quoted is that of high praise, it can be said that their estimate has never been challenged by responsible judges. One of the earliest reviews said in part:

There have been a few occasions—I wish they had been much more numerous—when I have finished a new book with a strong feeling that what I had read was a genuine contribution to literature, a book I intended to keep and to re-read and to introduce to other readers. This is how I feel about Mr. White's *Shelley*, which looks to me like the definitive life of that great poet—certainly the best documented, the most accurate, and probably the most sympathetically sensible, life yet written. It is a long book, well over one thousand pages without the notes; yet at no time did I feel any desire to skip or that Mr. White was being too detailed.—Richard Aldington, in *Saturday Review of Literature*, December 7, 1940.

Harvard's brilliant scholar, poet, and critic, Theodore Spencer, who, like Newman White, was stricken by untimely death, wrote:

It would be difficult to imagine a more satisfactory biography of a poet than Professor White's life of Shelley. It is complete, serious, and of an almost more than adequate magnitude. The product of twenty-five years' careful labor, it will remain, as it deserves to remain, the most thorough, sensible, and well-balanced life of Shelley that research and careful judgment can produce. New materials may turn up in the future (the Esdaile papers have still to be thoroughly examined) and new critical estimates will be made from time to time, but it is most unlikely that so thorough and just a presentation will ever be made again.—*The Atlantic Monthly*, January, 1941.

When the end of the war made possible the publication of *Shelley* in England in 1947, Harold Nicolson, a master of the biographical art, both in

its theory and practice, reviewed it in the *Daily Telegraph* (London) of September 12, 1947. Since *Shelley* had already been available for nearly seven years, it is probable that this represents a considered opinion:

He has brought to his great task a simple narrative style, an admirable sense of proportion and construction, and a modest objectivity of approach which never distorts, but always illumines, the innumerable facts which he has collected. In these two volumes we are able to follow Shelley's life, and the development of his genius, almost day by day. From time to time Professor White interrupts the easy flow of his narrative to analyse the meaning of some poem or pamphlet or to explain the inner secret of Shelley's recurrent moods of depression. His notes are informative and abundant, his appendices of great interest, and his chapter on Shelley's posthumous reputation is a masterpiece of industry and analysis. . . . This is unquestionably the most important contribution to Shelley scholarship which has been published in this generation.

In order to give the general reader a more accessible form of the *Shelley*—one free of the paraphernalia of notes, necessary for scholarship but cumbersome—Professor White published in 1945 his *Portrait of Shelley*, which is the text of *Shelley* somewhat revised. It is hard to imagine a more charming and satisfactory work of literary art.

Those who knew Newman White in only one aspect did not know the man; to be understood, he must be known as an integrated being with various facets. He was recognized as standing for progressive movements not only at Duke but in wider educational and public movements as well. He expressed his views by voice, and especially by his fluent pen, whenever occasion demanded, but was never boring or vituperative. Certainly one would have little appreciation of him who did not know him as a citizen; a citizen, he evidently felt, was one who in times of crisis did those things that were necessary to do, however hard they might be. A manifestation of this trait appeared in the presidential campaign of 1932. White had come to admire the intellectual honesty and humanitarian zeal of Norman Thomas, and therefore regretted that, under North Carolina election laws, Thomas did not have a place on the ballot. He lost little time in setting about to correct this defect by circulating a petition, and correct it he did by dint of arduous campaigning for signatures. After 1932, as the depression persisted, he became more and more concerned not with partisan politics but with the relief of human suffering. Probably at no time for the remainder of his life did a year go by in which he was not seriously interested in some deeply thought



out scheme for the aid of those in want. In the depression years of 1934-1936 he became interested in the West Durham Nursery School, for which he organized support, collecting and contributing funds. This particular interest he continued at a later time with the Child Care Association, of which he was chairman and member of the board of directors from 1944 to 1946.

His most distinctive social effort was manifested in the Durham Labor and Materials Exchange, which he organized and directed almost single handed. The Exchange operated from February 3 to August 26, 1933, when conditions among the unemployed in industrial Durham were at their worst. Organizations and public spirited citizens saw this admirable project and gave it aid because they were convinced of Professor White's ability and unselfishness. The City Armory was made available as headquarters; the Duke Hospital and the Duke Legal Aid Clinic cooperated. Employment and materials were found for many needy people by the exchange of goods and services. Employment was provided by odd jobs, and recreation and reading rooms were maintained for the unemployed. The Community Relief organization was highly appreciative of this supplement to its work.

This interesting social experiment was described by White in an article, "Labor Helps Itself: a Case History," published in the *South Atlantic Quarterly* for October, 1933. In this article he gave a detailed account of the operations of the Exchange, together with a statement of its principles:

The principles on which the L. and M. has consistently operated have been six: (1) to build up credit by fulfilling all its obligations; (2) to serve the unemployed in every way possible and keep itself adaptable; (3) to emphasize self-help rather than charity; (4) to resist the tendency to lower wages; (5) to avoid entangling alliances and competition; and (6) to promote in every way possible cooperation among the unemployed, and between the unemployed and the employed.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, White took a prominent part in the work of the Duke University Defense Council. As Chairman of its Committee on National Unity, he arranged for the preparation and publication in the daily press of a series of articles by members of the Duke faculty, and wrote one article, "What the Nazis did in Germany and might do in America," in the series. He gave both money and precious time to British War Relief, United Nations War Relief, and Red Cross activities, and spoke publicly in their interests.

His sense of social responsibility showed itself also in the affairs of his University and his profession. Of his services in these realms we can enumer-

ate only a few. Although the Duke Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was not organized until 1920, White and his lifelong friend, Hardin F. (Stitch) Taylor were elected as alumni members. He was on many of its committees and served one term as its president. He was a prominent member also of the American Association of University Professors, and was designated by the national office to investigate two colleges alleged to have infringed academic freedom. His findings appear in the *Bulletin* of the Association. He was for a number of years secretary of the Duke University Research Council, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Friends of Duke University Library, to which he made frequent and valuable gifts.

White served as a member of the board of directors of the English Institute from 1939 to 1942. He was also a member of the American Folklore Society, and was for two terms president of the North Carolina Folklore Society. He was a member of the Modern Humanities Research Association, and in the Modern Language Association was on the Committee on Monographs and advisory editor for articles on Shelley scholarship. To the annual bibliographies of the *Journal of English Literary History (ELH)*, from 1937 to 1947, he contributed bibliographical and critical notes concerning publications in the field of English Romantic literature. Among English societies, he was a member of the British Society of Authors, and the Charles Lamb Society.

Despite all these activities, superimposed on a busy life of teaching and research, Newman White was a diligent and faithful correspondent. His index of correspondents contains over three hundred addresses of individuals, libraries, and institutions with which he maintained contact. He answered everything that came to him, usually in longhand, faithfully and fully. He even "suffered fools gladly," or at least patiently, and gave large amounts of his time to many persons and causes that had no real claim upon him. The burden of correspondence and interviews became particularly heavy after the worldwide reputation that came to him in his later years, but still he continued to give of himself.

The last year of his life was filled, as usual, with accomplishment and enjoyment. During the summer of 1948 he motored with Mrs. White to California to study the William Godwin materials in the Huntington Library. Continuing his work on Godwin, of whom he proposed to write a biography, he went on sabbatical leave, in the fall of 1948, to Harvard. There he spent several happy months, in a university and among friends who had a great hold on his affections. Aside from the separation from his wife, this

was one of the happiest periods of his life. He had planned that in the spring of 1949 he and Mrs. White should travel to Europe, but during the night of December 6 death fell upon him quietly.

His funeral was held in the Duke University Chapel, where the service was read by his friend of forty years, the Reverend James Cannon III, and by a newer friend, the Reverend George Brinkmann Ehlhardt. Of the many affectionate and admiring tributes paid to Newman White, it is hardly possible to make more than a random choice. One we like particularly to remember speaks of his relation to his alma mater, which he loved so well that he could never rest in his zeal to improve it; Professor William B. Hamilton wrote for the student newspaper, the Duke *Chronicle*, of December 10, 1948:

Duke University has become so large, the interests of its students so diverse, that all the undergraduates do not have general acquaintance, even by hearsay, with any one member of our body. It is well for us to know, therefore, that the life of N. I. White, who died on Monday, added dignity and stature to each student and teacher in this University.

His achievement in the literary world is enough to expect from one man, but it is not the only gift to us from Professor White. He so comported himself outside his study that we are still richer for him. He was no radical nor rebel, but he had the courage to espouse unpopular causes and a willingness to look authority in the eye which gave heart to many a weaker member of this University. His concern for the less privileged led him to interest himself in behalf of the worker (before he could fight for himself) and of various underdogs. He tried to assist the laborers of Durham when the depression had brought them to sore straits. He sponsored Norman Thomas when (and probably because) that gentleman was considerably less tolerantly regarded than he is now. At a time when many members of this University felt themselves frustrated by an atmosphere of inadequacy, secretiveness and lack of trust—a failing of that academic comradeship we need here in our common enterprise—White lent his prestige and force to the protestants, bolstering their self-respect. The urbane geniality with which he received the young, student or teacher, had the same effect. In these matters he made to Duke University throughout his thirty years here an inestimable contribution as a man, distinct from his service as a teacher and a scholar. Because of White, we are each of us more learned. We are more highly regarded. And what is most important, we have more pride in ourselves and more faith in our fellows.



SONNET: AUGUST 6, 1945

Into the void we go, where things unknown  
Move formless, in a dull vacuity.  
A world of blankness - - - Here the memory  
Seizes no once-familiar touch or tone  
Of that forgotten world so late our own;  
And as our fathers long ago, so we  
Must wrestle with strange shapes we cannot see—  
Unfriended, and most utterly alone.

Yet we shall face them. They shall yet forego  
The bestial triumph; they shall not instill  
The ancestral dread; nor shall they overthrow—  
These sullen out-world shapes—that steady will  
That men have framed together; they shall know  
There is a spirit terror may not kill.

N. I. W.

## THE INNER FORTRESS

### I

Why should we murmur, Claïs, that the press  
Of little things engulfs us, that we go  
Girt round with gnats, and emulantly sow  
Like other men, our crop of nothingness?  
Others have come this sterile way no less  
Harried than we, some howling in their woe  
And some that, beaten, yet disdain to throw  
Against the placid stars their dull distress.

Let us be scornful too, but pitiful  
Of those that lacking Scorn's transcendent dower,  
Shrink fevered in this vile Maremma blast;  
Knowing but this, that life is always dull  
To cowards only, and that men have power  
Antéan in themselves, while Scorn shall last.

### II

Come, let us tend our Nothings lovingly  
And fiercely; and despite the ancient saw,  
"Ex nihil, nil" let us from Nothing draw  
Things that are fair and true for you and me.  
Alike regardless if men cannot see  
Or if they think they see and stand in awe  
Let us contain, within ourselves, a law,  
And in ourselves a faith, and dignity.

And should men come—as no one ever will—  
Exclaiming (do not smile!), " 'Tis marvellous.  
How grew you these where goodman never delves?"  
Better be, Claïs, lightly scornful still,  
And say, " 'Tis naught; a whimsy mastered us;  
We grew them only from and for ourselves."

### III

So, bearing mail against our secret need  
We shall not stand defiantly at bay  
Against all comers. Often, by the way  
Shall we not pause and render thrilling heed  
To old intrepid thought and gallant deed?  
Shall we not stand and marvel and be gay  
When beauty stirs, renascent from decay,  
Through wind and sun and youth and flower and weed?  
But when the fog that lifted closes down  
And through the wrack the horrid Monster peers:  
Dragon or demon, grif, or unicorn  
(As men first saw him), or Jehovah's Frown,  
Or Endless Time, or baseless human Fears—  
Be with me, Claïs, and be with us, Scorn.

N. I. W.



## SPRING JONQUILS

And yet this very morning we behold  
Where yesterday the sodden leaves were dank  
Green jonquil stems upthrusting, rank on rank,  
Fighting their way as stoutly as of old.  
Some bear aloft on their triumphant lances  
Thin, rotted leaves that cannot stay the thrust—  
Transfixed oppressors—who shall turn to dust  
Before the yellow harvest blooms and dances.  
Oh light footsoldiers of the stripling Spring,  
Through endless time invincibly elate,  
Whose blooms store future triumph when they wilt,  
Have you not seen men grieving by the gate  
Of Babylon, for Sion's harrowing?  
Have you not seen the Temple they rebuilt?

N. I. W.

## EASTER, 1941

To match Thy resurrection with the Spring's,  
O risen Lord, was Easter wisely set?  
Or did those ancient, pious men forget  
That every time the earth is freed it swings  
Once more to icy chains? That iron rings  
May seal the tomb once broken, and beget  
Within its empty darkness, black as jet,  
Another faith, of horrid blasphemings?  
We thank Thee, Lord, that rock-cut catacombs  
Guard now those early sainted optimists  
From lictors grown more pitiless than Rome's,  
From tortured minds and poisoned Eucharists,  
From stolen altars, bloody aerodromes,  
From Hope that walks astray, if it exists.

N. I. W.

## OUR ANCIENT CONTEMPORARIES, THE ROMANTIC POETS

An address delivered by NEWMAN IVEY WHITE at the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York on March 21, 1942, as the last of a series presented by noted scholars in connection with the Library's exhibition on the theme of "The British Tradition."

**D**EAD MEN, we have heard it grimly asserted, tell no tales. According to poets, however, some so-called dead men cannot die; they continue to live as "kings of thought." "Weep not for Adonais," they say; "*he* is not dead"; it is in fact only the so-called living, fighting uselessly with phantoms and "invulnerable nothings," who are dead and dying.

Not to pursue such a subject into the realm of metaphysics, this paper wishes only to point out that from the point of view of our own moment in time, the great Romantic poets are anything but dead. Such ancients as Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, and Byron, never knew even that they were ancients. They lived, as we do, in a world of revolution, war, and counter-revolution all at once, and they talked about it very much as we would or should talk, if we could talk as well and be as fully alive. The quarter-century in which most of their poetry appeared (1792-1817) offers so many striking parallels to our own days that the mention of only a few of them should give us a feeling of fellow-citizenship.

These men, like present-day Englishmen, knew the threat of invasion as no other Englishmen had known it since the days of the Norman Conquest or the Spanish Armada. Several abortive attempts were actually made by the French, the largest at Bantry Bay, in 1797-98, and the most remarkable that of a small landing force on the Welsh coast. After suffering light casualties in stealing a calf, this expedition surrendered because its officers mistook the red petticoats of numerous peasant women gathered on the surrounding hills for the red uniforms of heavy British reinforcements.

Sea-coast residents all had their government instructions curiously like those recently issued—they must destroy all supplies and road-signs, and break the axles of all vehicles as soon as the enemy landed. Mothers stilled fractious children with threats of "Boney's" appearance. Staid civilians rushed to the

enlistment stations. Among the volunteers who never saw battle were nearly all the poets old enough to enlist—Burns, Scott, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Southey, and Leigh Hunt—while Landor, and later Byron, saw some service abroad.

Then, as now, religious alarms and animosities complicated the struggle. If on the eve of the present war England had her Nazi societies promoting revolution and disloyalty, she had then her societies of friends of the Revolution, supposed by many good patriots to be doing the same thing. Tom Paine, prodded by a prophetic warning from William Blake, reached France only a jump or two ahead of the officers who were to have arrested him. Civil rights, then as later, yielded to public dangers or fears. The right of *habeas corpus*, for centuries the unviolated citadel of British freedom, was suspended annually from 1794-1801 and again in 1817—the latter occasion followed by a hurried exodus of radical writers to America. Byron, writing his flippant *Beppo* in Italy in 1817, seized the opportunity to include *habeas corpus* in his mocking catalogue of England's various attractions: "I like the Habeas Corpus (when we've got it)."

Spies, official or self-appointed, were then, as now, a feature of the scene. The Romantic poets received some attention from them, but came off with unimpaired prestige. The town clerk of Barnstaple, an amateur sleuth, arrived at Lynmouth to investigate young Percy Bysshe Shelley only to find that his quarry had already given him the slip. The professional spy who dogged Coleridge and Wordsworth for a while in 1797 asked to be discharged because he was convinced that they were aware of him. He had crept up behind a bank on which the two poets were sunning themselves and discussing the philosophy of Spinoza; and in this position, as he reported it, he had heard them make repeated reference to "Spy-Nosey." Modern parallels even for these absurdities might be adduced.

The revolutionary spectacle in France had a number of aspects quite similar to those we have recently witnessed, even though some of them pertain in one case to a cause on the whole approved, and in the other to a cause detested. Our modern inflations, currency experiments, and price ceilings were all familiar to Revolutionary France. "Heads will roll in the dust" was Hitler's phrase, but it was earlier the French Revolution's practice. The revulsion from the execution of royalty, best expressed in England by Burke, has been stimulated again in our own day by the fate of the Russian royal family. The Nazi revolution financed itself largely by confiscating the property of labor unions and Jews, the French Revolution by confiscating that of the Church



and the nobility, so that the guillotine was sometimes called the mint. The Nazis developed a super-intense feeling of nationalism and eventually imposed it by force and treachery on their neighbors; the French did much the same thing in the name of an equally intense feeling of international brotherhood. The French Revolution, or its immediate aftermath, even parallels the Nazi racial persecution of the Jews with a brief persecution of Negroes. The sheer impossibility—to our orthodox economists of the 1930's—of a financially defunct Germany arming itself till it could overpower the rest of Europe would not have seemed so impossible to the generation of the Romantic poets which had seen France in the early 1790's accomplish the same supposed miracle.

The assumption for war purposes of tax burdens previously deemed virtually impossible was as characteristic of the Romantic generation as of our own. No whimsical complainant in these days will ever surpass Sydney Smith's outburst on taxation in 1820: "Taxes upon every article which enters into the mouth, or covers the back, or is placed under the foot—taxes upon everything which it is pleasant to see, hear, feel, smell or taste—taxes upon warmth, light, and locomotion—taxes on everything on earth, and the waters under the earth . . ." etc., etc., through a highly specific catalogue, ending with "and the dying Englishman, pouring his medicine, which has paid seven per cent, into a spoon that has paid 15%—flings himself back upon his chintz bed, which has paid 22%—and expires in the arms of an apothecary who has paid a license of a hundred pounds for the privilege of putting him to death."

The generation of the Romantic poets, like our own, saw revolution converted into autocracy and proceeding from conquest to conquest by means often as unscrupulous as those we have witnessed—broken treaties, political assassinations, and the enslavement of nations. Poles and Italians fought Napoleon's battles, though not under quite the same duress as Rumanians and Magyars have fought Hitler's. Toussaint L'Ouverture was taken treacherously under a flag of truce, somewhat as Hitler has taken whole nations. Napoleon kidnapped from neutral territory and later executed the Duc D'Enghien, just as Hitler kidnapped from Switzerland, Holland and Austria several victims whom he executed or imprisoned. Napoleon executed the Swiss patriot Hofer for continuing to resist after his government had ceased fighting, and Hitler almost daily executed scores of Poles and Serbs for similar reasons. Marat and the Czar of Russia were assassinated; several attempts were made to assassinate Napoleon and George III; one English prime minister was assassinated and another, William Pitt, was later accused by Lafayette

of having instigated assassination in France. It remained for our contemporary Japanese, however, *systematically* to develop assassination as a means of political persuasion.

We have our phrase, and the reality, of total warfare and a nation in arms, but it was the French Revolution which first applied it. We have our experiences with new military techniques, but the same or similar things were known also to the early nineteenth century; Napoleon, like Hitler, paralyzed his enemies by a previously unknown and unorthodox speed of movement, weight of metal, and massing of troops against one nation to use them suddenly against another.

Even specific incidents of the two wars contain curious parallelisms. England's chief weapon then, as later, was the blockade and the encouragement of Continental resistance by means of subsidy. England attacked and crippled the French fleet in 1793 for precisely the same reason that impelled her to attack and destroy the neutral Danish fleet in 1802 on a forty-eight hour ultimatum—because she could not risk its falling into the hands of the Continental dictator. The very names that were significant in Napoleon's invasion of Russia are in some cases the same as today; for instance, Napoleon first planned, like Hitler, to stop his retreat at Smolensk. Even the reactionary aftermath of the earlier struggle bears some resemblance to the outcome of our first World War, though one hopes it will not resemble that of the second. For the Romantic generation, as for ours and others, there was also the "peace offensive." Burke's fear in 1796 that Pitt would make peace called forth his greatest eloquence, practically from his death-bed, in *Letters on a Regicide Peace*. Eighteen years later, when Napoleon was desperate after Leipzig, Southey issued an impassioned poetic warning against compromisers, "Who Counsels Peace at this Momentous Hour?"

One aspect of our modern struggle, the underlying conflict between capital and labor, was largely absent from the former one. But the conditions which were to generate it were recognized in different ways in their very infancy by Wordsworth, Coleridge, Southey, Byron and Shelley. As early as 1804 a letter of Coleridge shows his apprehension of future disaster from the dehumanizing tendencies of modern commerce and industry. Wordsworth in his *Excursion* saw and cried out against the stultifying effects of the new industrialism. Southey, though by that time, like Wordsworth, a Tory, protested strongly against the evils of child labor in the mines and factories. Byron made a bitter speech in the House of Lords against the bill which authorized the hanging of laborers for breaking machinery, and Shelley boldly advocated

repudiation of the national debt on the grounds that it had been pyramided largely by a new moneyed class who were in the main both the makers and holders of the debt, while labor paid the interest.

One would not insist too strongly on the basic character of all the parallels here mentioned. No one generation ever completely repeats the experience of another. The French Revolution, we like to think, is not to be compared with the Nazi one on the basis of merit, nor Napoleon with Hitler, nor even the Treaty of Vienna with that of Paris. It is sufficient for our purposes if we realize that psychologically, at least, the Romantic poets belonged to a generation which must have reacted to its times pretty much as we react to ours. We may then proceed to examine more in detail how the Romantic poets behaved in this psychological environment so similar to our own.

The older group of Romantic poets faced a problem of divided loyalties which should not seem entirely strange to our generation. For many of us there have been divided loyalties in attempting to harmonize a hatred of dictatorship and a military comradeship with dictators; or a hatred of Nazism with a respect for German thoroughness and industry and a love of the older German music, philosophy, and *Gemütlichkeit*; or a traditional belief in eighteenth century American political democracy with a new and disturbing creed of economic and social democracy.

Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Southey all grew up in a liberal Whig tradition which honored the English Revolution of 1688 and had shown some sympathy with the American Revolution. Wordsworth, in particular, came from the most naturally democratic social and political environment that England afforded. In common with a great many young English Whigs, they hailed the French Revolution with joy. Its principles seemed to them, as Wordsworth said of his own feelings, so natural as almost to be taken for granted. Young Coleridge at Cambridge read all the revolutionary news and pamphlets and so stored his marvellous memory each morning that in the evening he was used by his associates as a kind of animated newspaper. Young Southey at Oxford was full of the same enthusiasm; Coleridge and Southey collaborated in a poetic drama on the fall of Robespierre and in planning their well-known Pantisocracy scheme for a revolutionary society on the banks of the Susquehanna River.

Wordsworth, meanwhile, had paid a visit to France and had noted with warm sympathy the universal greeting of "Citizen," the enthusiastic local celebrations of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, and the raw revolutionary



pikemen moving to their frontier posts. The next year when he persuaded his guardians that he needed a residence in France to prepare himself as a teacher, one strongly suspects further motives never stated by Wordsworth himself. He came soon to feel like one who has stepped into a new and glorious inheritance:

Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive,  
But to be young was very Heaven!

That he could write these lines years after he had come to believe that his enthusiasm was in part misguided is an eloquent testimony both to his intellectual honesty and to the intensity of his youthful feelings.

But the causes which incite our enthusiasm have their own ends to serve. They exist for themselves and are guided partly by uncontrollable circumstances to which they must conform and partly by their own human strength and weaknesses. Hence they generally fall short of our enthusiastic ideals. It is also true that the young enthusiast, like his cause, is subject to a variety of stresses of which he is partly unconscious.

Who, then, shall assess the extent to which Wordsworth's trend away from the Revolution was due to financial pressure from his guardians, or to a subconscious fear that he was jeopardizing his whole precious future by a misalliance with Annette Vallon, or to the inevitability either of conforming to England's constant state of warfare with France or else of seeing his plans and ambitions completely frustrated? The fundamental purpose of all Wordsworth's poetry was to find a basic, tenable harmony between individual man and his environment. Such a person was surely less likely to maintain an individual warfare against a country which he loved and upon which his whole fortune depended than he was to discover a basis for harmonizing his beliefs with inevitable conditions.

We, who have seen the awful power of national will organized to subvert individual opinions, should understand Byron, Shelley, Hazlitt, Browning, Paul Elmer More, or Mr. Fausset, for suggesting in various ways that Wordsworth may have been an unconscious victim of such pressure—that he deserted his earlier opinions by a process now known as rationalizing. In our own day we have seen dimly, and shall yet see more clearly, individual examples of the same tragedy that the young Wordsworth was tough enough to surmount, in which causes have outrun the sympathies of their adherents, or in which it is necessary to effect a *modus vivendi* between strongly held opinions and an invincible environment hostile to them.

I repeat that we can by no means be sure how Wordsworth's change was

effected or how much his most fundamental opinions really changed. We know that in *The Prelude* when he came to state his reasons for leaving France he did so quite briefly and vaguely and was sufficiently dissatisfied with the wording to change it later. We know that after his return to England he boldly took issue with some anti-revolutionary principles published by the Bishop of Llandaff—but failed to publish his answer or even to send it to the Bishop. We know of both Wordsworth and Coleridge that their disapproval of mass executions and of assaults upon religion was not sufficient to turn them against the Revolution. Both men sincerely believed that they deserted the Revolution only when the Revolution deserted the principle of national freedom and embarked upon the conquest of weaker neighboring countries. Finally, we know that both men came to be ticketed later by their younger contemporaries as conservatives. We see Wordsworth a little later publishing a magnificent series of patriotic sonnets, yet criticizing again and again, with the boldness of a Hebrew prophet, England's moral and spiritual weaknesses, accepting a sinecure from a reactionary government, opposing the Reform Bill and Catholic Emancipation, criticizing democratic government in America, yet remarking that he was at heart half a Chartist and maintaining and believing that these positions were in accord with, and not contrary to, his early principles.

How did the other poets meet the same necessity for readjustment? With Scott there was no revulsion. He was and always had been a Tory, with an instinct for tradition and conformity combined with a great personal generosity and kindness. He could get along sufficiently well with Whigs to maintain friendliness for a while with the founders of the *Edinburgh Review* and even to like Lord Byron, but his later encouragement of the more savage Tory reviewers and his actual campaigning against Catholic Emancipation represented no real change in outlook.

Thomas Campbell began his poetry with what might have become a revolutionary strain. But it scarcely went beyond the sound traditional Whig liberalism of such an eighteenth-century poet as Cowper. To the end of his days he remained a mild liberal influence in English literature, more in journalism than in poetry. He was so much more the patriotic Englishman than the devotee of abstract freedom and justice that he could write his most spirited poem, "The Battle of the North," in praise of an attack upon a neutral fleet after the lapse of a sudden, forty-eight hour ultimatum.

The case with Robert Southey was different. There was no doubt about the strongly revolutionary character of his youthful *Joan of Arc* and *Wat*

*Tyler*. Yet Southey's sympathy with France (though not with republicanism) was largely terminated by the fall of the moderate Girondist leaders. The fundamental bias of Southey's character was not revealed until after his marriage. It was practical rather than idealistic, and his sense of responsibility was far more personal than social. His most pressing obligation was the support of a family—two families, after he assumed Coleridge's duties. They all drew their principal nourishment, as he once phrased it, through one quill. This quill he conscientiously employed on as many as three or four books or articles at once, and yet found time for occasional poems and stories for his own children and very jolly letters to them. Southey *had* to be practical, and fortunately it cost him only a temporary pang—when the Girondists were overthrown—after which he was happy in his work. He was quite willing in 1807 to accept a small literary annuity from the reactionary Tory Government, to become in 1809 one of the principal contributors to the arch-conservative *Quarterly Review*, and in 1813 poet laureate.

A course comparatively so untroubled would have been impossible for Wordsworth or Coleridge. To the extent that they were men of vastly greater philosophic grasp and imaginative sympathies than Southey, they suffered longer and more deeply from the period of civil war within their own bosoms. The period of Wordsworth's greatest suffering, from 1792 to about 1795, is a relatively blind spot in his biography, but from his own account in *The Prelude* it was unquestionably the darkest and most dismal period of his life. He tells us that he sought everywhere in vain for some intellectual and moral anchor, until

I lost  
All feeling of conviction, and, in fine,  
Sick, wearied out with contrarieties,  
Yielded up moral questions in despair.

Coleridge, who from the depths of his own despondency so admired Wordsworth's strength, would scarcely have doubted, had he known Wordsworth at this time, that the "cheerful confidence" which Wordsworth eventually achieved must have been inevitable from a deep, innate affirmative bias. With a social and personal conscience more sensitive, perhaps, even than Wordsworth's, Coleridge did not possess this last invincible redoubt of the stronger poet. He possessed only the penetration and honesty to perceive his own deficiency. And so his inner civil war was probably more poignant even than Wordsworth's. Like Southey and Wordsworth, his sympathy with the French Revolution was bound up mainly with the Girondist ascendancy.



He hailed the early Revolution with joy, celebrated with a poem the destruction of the Bastille, wrote a sonnet to assert that Liberty could not be imprisoned with Lafayette, and was grieved, but not alienated, by the Jacobin Reign of Terror. His criticism of England at this time was both more stringent and more affectionate than Wordsworth's. His "Ode on the Departing Year" (1796) condemns England as

Abandon'd of Heaven! mad Avarice thy guide,  
At cowardly distance, yet kindling with pride—  
Mid thy herds and thy corn-fields secure thou hast stood,  
And join'd the wild yelling of Famine and Blood!  
The nations curse thee!

Even then, however, England seems to him "Not yet enslaved, not wholly vile."

Two years later, in 1798, he wrote both his "Ode to France" and his "Fears in Solitude." In the former he gives a true account of his devotion to "divinest Liberty" and his steadfast association of that cause with France even at the expense of assailing his beloved England as France's enemy. He then denounces France as a suppressor of liberty through her attacks on the Swiss:

The Sensual and the Dark rebel in vain,  
Slaves by their own compulsion!

He concludes that true liberty is a vain dream, realizable perhaps in nature, but not in human society.

His "Fears in Solitude" calls upon Englishmen to

repel an impious foe,  
Impious and false, a light yet cruel race,  
Who laughs away all virtue, mingling mirth  
With deeds of murder.

The same poem contains a strong indictment of England's sins and concludes with a passionate assertion of his love for England. A year later the love of England was to be, as in Wordsworth's case, one of the strongest personal feelings evident in his poems written in Germany. It was England that he loved, however—her countryside, her plain people, but not her government or her history.

Coleridge's renunciation, in the "Ode to France," of the search for political freedom was apparently final. Until the end of his life the gospel which he handed down in his prose writings and conversation was to be based largely on a passion for intellectual, rather than political freedom. Through a decade

and a half after 1798, England was still in danger and still in need both of national inspiration and of fearless criticism, but Coleridge was silent. It was Wordsworth who assumed this office.

Their struggles within themselves, caused by the strong dissension of their times, is an aspect of the Romantic poets every shade of which may be duplicated by the observation of thoughtful people today. Although the spectacle contains no particular present inspiration or encouragement for us, it should at least help us understand some of our contemporaries. For a more positive stimulation we must inspect two other aspects of the subject, namely, the spiritual stimulation offered England by her poets during the long struggle with Napoleon, and the comments of the younger Romantic generation on the peace.

Except for Wordsworth's, few of the many war poems of the time are remembered or deserve remembrance today. Wolfe's "The Burial of Sir John Moore," Campbell's "Ye Mariners of England" and "The Battle of the North" are exceptions. But Campbell's battle lyrics, though spirited, lack imaginative power and philosophic grasp, and can only be called splendid examples of the "up guards and at 'em" type. The numerous turgid odes on Waterloo, including those of Southey and of Wordsworth—the latter with the deplorable line, "Carnage is thy [God's] daughter," which so justly infuriated Shelley and Byron—are all about as deadly as the battle itself. Scarcely a line could be remembered, wrote Francis Jeffrey in 1816, of all the poems written on Waterloo by "all our bards, . . . great and small, and of all sexes, ages, and professions."

At this point and in this particular, at least before Waterloo, Wordsworth towers above the rest like a majestic oak above the surrounding scrub. No English man of letters save possibly Milton has ever functioned so grandly as a trumpet-call to the best spirit of his time and nation. For thirteen years of intermittent danger, disaster, and triumph his voice may be heard above the confusion of cross-purposes, speaking calmly in tones that far transcend the mere emotion of the moment.

It is a strangely ironic fact that this trumpet-call was heard by his contemporaries more as a belated echo than as an instantaneous stimulus. The many sonnets written between 1802 and 1807 inclusive were not published until 1807, the sonnets and poems written between 1807 and 1815 were not published until 1815, while some fifteen poems were written in 1816, after the battle of Waterloo. Nor, when Wordsworth wrote these poems, was he

sufficiently well-known to the general reading public for them to have had their fullest effect had they been published at once.

In all, there are some seventy of these poems. They begin with Wordsworth's sojourn in Calais in 1802, during the brief peace following the Treaty of Amiens. These sonnets show an expectation of invasion, a sense of France's spiritual deterioration and of Napoleon's moral weakness as a great leader, and an anxiety over England's spiritual defects coupled with a confidence that she is nevertheless the worthiest remaining champion of Freedom. During the next year, 1803, when it seemed that England might be invaded at any time, he wrote several sonnets on the anticipated invasion; he even went so far as to write one congratulating the men of Kent for their intrepid repulse of a wholly imaginary invasion.

To read these poems is almost to call the roll of crises and stirring events of the times. The imprisonment of Toussaint L'Ouverture, the subjection of the Swiss, the anti-Napoleonic leanings of the King of Sweden, the extinction of the Venetian Republic, the brave, unsuccessful effort of Major Schill to arouse Prussia against Napoleon, the death of Charles Fox, Napoleon's crushing victories of Austerlitz and Jena, the mounting tide of Spanish resistance to Napoleon, Waterloo, and (four years after the event) Napoleon's disaster in Russia—all receive their comment. Never once was he really despondent, even though he never underestimated the danger, and even though he was fully aware of England's spiritual weaknesses. Again and again he calls attention to these:

The world is too much with us;

and

Milton! thou should'st be living at this hour:  
England hath need of thee: she is a fen  
Of stagnant waters: altar, sword, and pen,  
Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower,  
Have forfeited their ancient English dower  
Of inward happiness . . .

or

No grandeur now in Nature or in book  
Delights us. Rapine, avarice, expense,  
This is idolatry; and these we adore:  
Plain living and high thinking are no more.

But England nevertheless seemed spiritually superior to France; there was a historic "Flood of British freedom" which had challenged the world's ad-



miration for centuries and which it seemed impossible "in bogs and sands should perish." She had had great men, whereas France had produced "no master spirit." Napoleon himself lacked all the elements of the truly great "happy warrior":

Wisdom doth live with children round her knees;  
Books, leisure, perfect freedom, and the talk  
Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk  
Of the mind's business. . . .

Throughout all these poems true greatness, whether national or individual, is the basic note. "What has tamed great nations" is a spiritual and not a material force, while "the power of armies is a visible thing." "The martial courage of a day is vain;" the abiding forces are national tradition, the courage of daily life, simple, plain living, and persistent, manly determination. In the worst moment of depression, in 1806, when the Continent lay at Napoleon's feet and William Pitt on his deathbed was saying "Fold up the map" of Europe, Wordsworth was writing.

Another year!—another deadly blow!  
Another mighty Empire overthrown!  
And We are left, or shall be left, alone;  
The last that dare to struggle with the Foe.  
'Tis well! From this day forward we shall know  
That in ourselves our safety must be sought;  
That in our own right hands it must be wrought;  
That we must stand unproped, or be laid low.  
O dastard whom such foretaste doth not cheer!  
We shall exult, if they who rule the land  
Be men who hold its many blessings dear,  
Wise, upright, valiant; not a servile band,  
Who are to judge of danger which they fear,  
And honour which they do not understand.

Five years later, while writing sonnets to encourage the Spanish patriots, he furnishes perhaps the greatest testimony of all:

Here pause; the poet claims at least this praise,  
That virtuous Liberty hath been the scope  
Of his pure song, which did not shrink from hope  
In the worst moment of these evil days;  
From hope, the paramount *duty* that Heaven lays,  
For its own honour, on man's suffering heart.

Never may from our souls one truth depart—  
That an accursed thing it is to gaze  
On prosperous tyrants with a dazzled eye;  
Nor—touched with due abhorrence of *their* guilt  
For whose dire ends tears flow, and blood is spilt,  
And justice labors in extremity—  
Forget thy weakness, upon which is built  
O wretched man, the throne of tyranny!

With the overthrow of Napoleon at Waterloo came the reaction. England's most lively poets now were men who had been children, or unborn, at the time when the older generation hailed the French Revolution. Coleridge, Scott, Campbell, Southey as poets were almost silent. Wordsworth, not altogether silent as a poet, was definitely the Lost Leader so far as political liberalism at home was concerned. The torch was now being carried by men like Byron, Shelley, Keats, and Moore. Two of these may be omitted from the present discussion—Keats, as a political liberal whose poetic bent was primarily non-political; and Moore, because his liberalism, though genuine, nevertheless spoke in a voice scarcely to be remembered in comparison with the voices of Shelley and Byron.

The Congress of Vienna was still propping up old Kings and new boundaries, and the older poets were still celebrating Waterloo as the gateway to a millennium when Byron visited that battlefield in 1816 and expressed there his scornful doubts as to what was becoming of Liberty in the shuffle:

Fit retribution! Gaul may champ the bit  
And foam in fetters;—but is Earth more free?

Byron, though he secretly relished being compared to Napoleon, somewhat agreed with Wordsworth's characterization of him, but, like Shelley, was inclined to think that Napoleon's tyranny was at least preferable to the tyrannies he overthrew.

Both Byron and Shelley saw it as a mission to oppose reaction at home and to encourage liberal revolutions abroad. Byron supplied arms and counsel to the Italian Carbonari and died in the struggle for Greek independence; Shelley hailed with joyous poetic encouragement the Neapolitan, Spanish and Greek uprisings, while he assailed the reaction at home in prose and poetry which he addressed sometimes, as in *Prometheus Unbound*, to the most advanced minds of the day, and sometimes, as in *The Masque of Anarchy*, to the intelligence of the average laborer.

With Shelley freedom was a religion to which in boyhood he had dedicated

a missionary zeal maintained thereafter with amazing intensity as the guiding principle of his life. In 1817, when he thought he might die before placing his love of freedom fully on record, he wrote his longest poem, *The Revolt of Islam*. This poem was an attempt to meet the greatest moral problem of the post-Waterloo era. Everywhere reaction was rampant, men were looking back upon the old Revolutionary ideals as a silly, evil dream, and were turning cynical and apathetic. A few years earlier, in 1814, Wordsworth had attacked the prevailing pessimism in his own way in *The Excursion*. Wordsworth had sought to restore an embittered former Revolutionary sympathizer to a positive, cheerful philosophy by the recipe of "plain living and high thinking" in a simple, healthful, natural environment among plain, honest people. He seemed to assume that the former enthusiasm was itself partly a disease. Perhaps this is why, after eagerly starting to read *The Excursion* aloud, Shelley and Mary entered in their journal, "Much disappointed; he is a slave." Shelley wished to restore and improve the revolutionary enthusiasm, rather than find a substitute. He first urged the task upon Byron, and assumed it himself only on Byron's default. In *The Revolt of Islam* he can hardly be said to have succeeded, except for a very select type of reader and on one important point. That point, reasserted in several later poems, is that the struggle for freedom can never be totally suppressed, that its many apparent defeats are only the times in which it gathers strength for a new outbreak. To Shelley this was a point which rendered relatively insignificant the success or failure of any particular revolt against tyranny.

From this fact proceeds a seeming paradox. The one Romantic poet who was most totally and passionately devoted to freedom is also one who writes relatively little solely about definite occasions. True, he seized upon the death of the liberal Princess Charlotte as an occasion for a prose pamphlet pointing out that the real funeral should be for Liberty; true, he wrote poems on every European revolutionary movement, upon the Manchester Massacre, and upon the general state of England in 1819. But even these poems were always escaping from the particular to the general. Though his *Masque of Anarchy* contains one of the best commonsense definitions of practical freedom that English poetry affords, Shelley could never confine himself to a particular occasion when the subject was liberty. Even in his *Hellas*, dealing with the Greek Revolution, the actual battle scenes are drawn more from the ancient Greeks than from current accounts, and the present struggle was to Shelley far less important than the eternal one which it symbolized.

This was because Freedom was for Shelley the essence of all life and of



life in all times. Shelley's only God or Goddess was ideal beauty, or Love, by which he meant universal sympathy; and ideal beauty simply could not exist without freedom. Life would be death, he proclaimed; hope would be despair, truth a lie and love merely lust,

If Liberty  
Lent not life its soul of light,  
Hope its iris of delight,  
Truth its prophet's robe to wear,  
Love its power to give and bear.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Shelley's grandest poem of Freedom, *Prometheus Unbound*, should be deliberately as far removed as possible from the shackles of any local or temporal circumstances. The action covers endless time and limitless space, and the subject is the struggle against oppression in every imaginable form. It was so far from being intended merely for the present crisis that Shelley doubted if more than twenty contemporaries would really understand it fully. Yet it reaches its conclusion on a note which is applicable to every crisis of freedom and is certainly one of the most awfully impressive of all poetic passages on Liberty. Jupiter has been overthrown, and Demogorgon, the agent of his downfall, realizes, as Shelley had long since realized, that Tyranny is never overthrown finally and forever. He therefore calls together the most inclusive audience imaginable to hear him assert the qualities by which alone Freedom can be kept or re-won:

To suffer woes which Hope thinks infinite;  
To forgive wrongs darker than death or night;  
To defy Power, which seems omnipotent;  
To love, and bear; to hope till Hope creates  
From its own wreck the thing it contemplates;  
Neither to change, nor falter, nor repent;  
This, like thy glory, Titan, is to be  
Good, great and joyous, beautiful and free;  
This is alone Life, Joy, Empire, and Victory!

Byron, though he failed to carry out Shelley's suggestion and even confessed privately that he could not understand Shelley's execution of it, served the same cause in his own way. In Canto IV of *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, written while Shelley was writing *The Revolt of Islam*, he champions Italian freedom, excoriates the reviving tyranny of Europe, and asserts that Freedom, led by some nobler champion like Washington, must triumph in the end:

Yet, Freedom! yet thy banner, torn, but flying,  
Streams like the thunder-storm *against* the wind!

Byron was himself a partly cynical and embittered product of disillusion, but he was never cynical about Freedom. Even in *Don Juan*, which is so largely a collection of witty cynicisms, his attitude toward Freedom affords an almost startling contrast of earnest idealism.

The reaction which the younger Romantic poets combatted offers a rather general parallel to the spiritual defeatism which so largely characterized our own post-war thinking after 1918, and had its part in leading up to our present crisis. If it should have to be faced once more, perhaps from these poets we may be able to draw some of the strength needed "to defy Power, which seems omnipotent," "neither to change, nor falter, nor repent," and

to hope till Hope creates  
From its own wreck the thing it contemplates.

## WORDSWORTH AND BEAUPUY

Seeing a starved girl tend a wretched cow,  
    " 'Tis this we fight against," Beaupuy exclaimed.  
    Young Wordsworth's Northern visage slowly flamed  
And "Aye," he said. The word fell like a vow  
From lips whose tightened passion even now  
    (More than a hundred years since it was tamed)  
    Sets youthful men afire to seek, unshamed,  
That goal by him forgotten, none knows how.  
Later he often mourned that earth and sea  
    And sky spoke always something that had fled—  
    A magic something he could not revive—  
Was it of France he thought? . . . The Loire. . . . Beaupuy. . . .  
    Annette. . . . and Freedom? *Then* it was he said,  
    "Joy was it, *in that day*, to be alive."

Strange paradox, to tend a vital fire  
    And flee from it, and after years of doubt  
    And misery find Joy, raising the shout  
Of victory in flight; and to inspire  
With solid courage struggles in the mire  
    Of weary circumstance—to turn about,  
    A fugitive himself, and stay the rout,  
And still self-righteous, take a tyrant's hire!  
"Not so," said Shelley, holding that same course  
    By him forsaken. "Who betray themselves  
    Die, soul and word, a total suicide"—  
O Irony!—O infinite resource  
    Of resolute Mind that sinuously delves  
    And never doubts, because self-justified.



How surely Nature fits into the Mind  
And how the Mind fits Nature's ordinance,  
The Joy that is man's natural heritage,  
The individual worth of human kind,  
He strongly uttered. When the state inclined  
Ignobly, he rebuked, the arrogance  
Of unripe science chastened, and his glance  
Lent Sorrow strength to know itself resigned.  
Take we our joy and strength of him, secure  
That one great mind he probed not to the end,  
Nor reached one smothered vision in its cell.  
And we that search his weakness—oh, be sure,  
As through the winding caverns we ascend,  
Long quiet ghosts we slew will rise as well.

But what of him whose vision could not stray  
From that starved girl and flashing river-side,  
Beaupuy, who wrote no poems, but relied  
Upon "the sense of youth"? Still day by day,  
Through swift assault or stupid blind delay,  
With ragged, singing soldiers at his side  
He fought for his first love until he died—  
Winning a moment's fame that passed away.  
But Wordsworth, when he later calmly wrote  
Of happy warriors—simple men inspired,  
"Kept faithful with a singleness of aim,"  
(His brother and Lord Nelson?)—Memory smote  
For once unasked, and young Beaupuy, "attired  
With sudden brightness" swept him like a flame.

N. I. W.

## ADVENTURES OF A BIOGRAPHER

A paper read by NEWMAN IVEY WHITE before the English Club of Duke University on December 12, 1940.

WHEN a man has written and talked for years largely on one subject, he eventually gets the idea that people would prefer his expressing himself about something else. Generally he gets it too late, but if he is married there is a chance that he may still get it in time to save humanity some needless suffering. That is one reason why I am not talking to you this evening on the general subject of Shelley; the other one is that I am afraid I can add nothing to what I have already written on that subject.

In choosing for my subject the *Adventures of a Biographer* I may be jumping from the frying pan into the fire. But I submit that anyone already in the frying pan is invincibly constrained to jump somewhere, and the fire has not yet been proved the worse fate. Perhaps we shall settle that doubt this evening, if nothing more.

The trouble with the present subject is that it is so undisguisably egotistic. There is no way that I can discover to call it by any other name. Every avenue of evasion that I have explored leads straight to the diaries of Adam and Eve. According to herself, Eve exclaimed the moment she saw a strange bird, "Well, I do declare, if there isn't the dodo!" And Adam testified that her reason for this was that she could see at a glance that it looked like a dodo. So they called it by its proper name. And since my subject looks like egotism, I see nothing but to call it that.

Adventure, of course, is not the main business of a biographer. His main business is to sit at a loom for some hundreds or thousands of hours; to throw out inquiries everywhere in an effort to discover materials in archives, libraries, and human memories all over the world; to assemble a mountainous mass of old rags of all descriptions, each containing at least a possible thread or two for his loom; to pick to pieces one by one each of those rags and sort out only the threads that may belong to his pattern; to study those threads minutely until he can perceive the general outlines of the one and only pattern into which all of them can be harmoniously woven—a pattern never before fully perceived even by the human being who lived it; and finally to

take those innumerable threads and weave them carefully into that pattern with nothing of real significance omitted or over- or underemphasized, with every thread duly tested for genuineness of color and fabric, with every possible sign of the weaver and his loom removed.

This is the biographer's main business, at which no biographer has ever been fully successful. But it is also his biggest adventure—an adventure-serial, so to speak, full of disappointments and excited moments, full of long quests ending in blind alleys and long quests ending in minor triumphs, thrilling moments of supposed insight which turn out after patient investigation to have been sometimes leaps into the dark and sometimes leaps into a sudden bright clarity of understanding. Every biographer has had such experiences. If I had time and skill enough I could elaborate them all in turn from personal experiences. For examples: OF DISAPPOINTMENT—a ten years' search, practically fruitless as yet, for the hidden connection which there is reason to suspect existed between Shelley and the mysterious journal called *The Theological Inquirer*; or the long, tedious pursuit of clues which I hoped vainly might lead me to the vanished third volume of Hogg's life of Shelley. OF SUCCESS—the equally long search through numerous periodicals, indexes, catalogues, obituaries, and memoirs, to discover the identity of the nameless Newspaper Editor who evidently knew Shelley fairly well in his youth. And this time I succeeded, when I was able to establish through internal evidence that the Newspaper Editor whose reminiscences appeared in *Fraser's Magazine* was the Gibbons Merle whose obituary I finally traced down in a Paris newspaper, *Galignani's Messenger*. It is quite true that what I had found was little more than a mere name—little more, in fact, than a perfectly glorious momentary thrill.

This moment of elation was followed in just about an hour by one of my memorable moments of deflation—thirty minutes of it, to be exact. My discovery of Gibbons Merle was made in the British Museum Periodical Collection at Hendon, outside London. As I made it my eye was constantly on the clock, for I had to keep an appointment on the other side of London with a gentleman who I hoped would put me on the track of Hogg's lost volume of Shelley's life. With great difficulty I had located him as the son of the man who had last handled the lost volume when it was in the hands of the publishers. He and his wife conducted a rather exclusive school which fitted boys for one of the Oxford colleges. Having miscalculated the time, I arrived half an hour early and had to wait for the gentleman's arrival. His wife evidently felt that I would expect to be entertained in the interim; she



was prepared to suffer fools, but not gladly. I could see her glance occasionally at a French novel she had just laid aside, and I could feel a calm detachment and a supercorrectness of manner that showed me what a boorish interloper I was, even though she chose, officially, to ignore the fact. She was a cool, beautiful Frenchwoman who had had years of experience making awkward schoolboys feel superfluous. If during that half-hour I had gone suddenly insane I would surely have imagined myself an automobile tire with a slow leak.

Eventually I was rescued by her husband, who conducted me to the more cheerful atmosphere of his den. He talked about his own literary work and gave me an autographed copy of his book; he also recalled various interesting stories about the publishing house that had failed to publish Hogg's third volume. But on the all-important point of my quest he put a final quietus, so far as that line of investigation was concerned. He told me that he knew his father had handled the volume I was trying to trace, but that soon afterwards his father had retired from the firm's employ under such embittering circumstances that he had never talked in his family thereafter about the firm's affairs. So I was deflated again. But there is still one clue left by which it is barely possible to solve the mystery, if I can find some way into the confidence of an American collector who simply ignores all my letters.

Having mentioned moments of supposed "insight" I must offer an illustration of that also. I had always felt a little uncertain about the alleged attack upon Shelley in Wales. But my doubts were only general doubts, and against these was the statement of a Welshman long after the event, that he himself was the attacker. In the face of this it was idle to express a doubt without some substantial backing. Then it suddenly dawned on me that there was something curious about the time element. In 1812 a young man of twenty had been overthrown in single combat by a midnight marauder who could hardly be supposed to be much younger himself. But that same marauder, telling his story for the first time in the early 1860's (to three little girls who lived in the house where the adventure occurred), had been described as hopping about in a lively manner as he told the story. This seemed to me rather odd in a person who must have been between seventy and eighty at the time. I knew that there was something wrong, and when I went to Wales a little later one of my primary purposes was to find out the truth about this doubtful witness. I located his great-nephew, who knew and believed the story; I even had tea with an old lady in the same house in which the adventure had occurred—one of the three little girls to whom the marauder had made

his boast in the 1860's. She remembered him and the incident quite well and said she had never believed his story. But nobody could help me to find his birth or death certificate, which would settle definitely that curious matter of his age. How I found the certificate after my return to America is another story in itself—it actually came to me through the unpublished papers of a deceased Welshman who had investigated his similar doubts. But the document, when I did find it, showed that Shelley's professed assailant was hardly three years old at the time of the assault.

A less successful instance of the same sort has to do with Shelley's labors for the Tremadoc Embankment in Wales. Having observed his desire for newspaper notice in Ireland a few months before, I felt that there must have come a time in Wales when this young reformer simply had to receive a comment in the newspapers. I found out the name of the nearest English newspaper at that time—the *North Wales Gazette*, of Bangor. I located a file of the *Gazette* in the University College at Bangor, and decided when the supposed publicity would be most likely to break out. When I went to Bangor it took me just about five minutes to find precisely the newspaper article I had predicated, at almost exactly the time I had supposed most likely. But I had hardly done so before I discovered that another scholar, Mr. Roger Ingpen, had already found the article and had included it in his edition of Shelley's works, in an out-of-the-way location in which I had failed to notice it. The discovery was no discovery at all. Yet psychologically it had the same value for me as if it had been, for it gave me confidence in my handling of my subject.

My most sensational discovery was one for which I can claim very little credit. Any third-rate lawyer could have made it and would have made it if it had involved the settlement of an estate. For a hundred years people interested in Shelley had wondered about several vague references in his letters to "My Neapolitan charge," as he called her—a little girl who had died in Naples in 1820. These seemed to be linked with the story of a mysterious English lady, a devoted admirer of Shelley about whom the poet had told his friend Medwin, who had also died in Naples about the time Shelley took over his "Neapolitan charge." Everyone had wondered about these two circumstances, which were commonly supposed to be connected, but no one had done anything. Even Shelley's story of the mysterious lady had not been examined closely enough to reveal certain inconsistencies with proved facts. All that was needed in her case was a realization that an English woman of wealth and station could hardly have died in Naples in December 1818 with-

out some record remaining in one of several places—in the *Gentleman's Magazine's* notices of deaths abroad, in the Neapolitan newspapers, in the papers of the English consul who would have to handle her effects and inform her relatives, or in the official death-records of Naples. In the case of the child, all that was necessary was to examine the Neapolitan birth-records for December 1818 and death-records for June, 1820. Having attended to all the other matters myself and discovered no lady who could possibly be the mysterious lady of Shelley's story, I asked the American Consul-General in Naples to engage an investigator to search the birth and death records. The investigator's report, as I expected, revealed no trace of the mysterious lady. She was evidently a myth. But the report on the child was shattering. I had expected a long list of children who had been born within certain dates in Naples and another of children who had died there at a certain time. By study and comparison of these lists I had hoped, *just possibly*, to identify Shelley's "Neapolitan charge." The last thing I expected, under the circumstances, was to find a child bearing Shelley's name. What I received was three official documents, the birth-record, baptismal record, and death-record of Elena Adelaide Shelley, who was described over Shelley's own signature as the daughter of Percy B. and Mary Shelley.

Then I suddenly realized that it was utterly impossible for this child to have been Mary Shelley's. The real quest was only begun. I had to account for that child, and to do it I had to penetrate the determined secrecy of long dead witnesses, the only three or four people who had ever lived who *could* have accounted for it satisfactorily. For over a year I searched and re-searched every possible letter, every possible journal entry, every imaginable circumstance that might have a bearing, consulted with doctors and lawyers for technical information, thrashed over every hypothesis again and again with all the best judges of human behavior that I knew. I wrote and rewrote at least four times my chapter dealing with this mystery, because what I found was so complicated that I despaired of ever presenting it clearly and simply. My first conclusion was that the child was an illegitimate daughter of Shelley and Claire Clairmont. My ultimate conclusion, that the whole episode was designed to cloak the adoption of a Neapolitan child, is still unproved and I fear is incapable of absolute proof. A few reviewers of my book have been inclined to doubt it, but I believe most readers accept it as probable. A far more important matter to which the reviewers have paid little attention is the general situation out of which this episode grew and to which it directed closer attention. In the end it resulted in a completely new view of Shelley's



domestic life in the fall and winter of 1818-1819, and in a new interpretation of nearly every poem he wrote during that time.

Meeting a number of very interesting people is an important part of every biographer's adventures. Chief among these, of course, is the subject of his biography. I cannot claim that I have ever fully seen Shelley plain; no human being has ever completely understood another personality. The imagination itself is unequal to the task, and words, our only medium of communication, are totally inadequate to convey even what the imagination is equal to. There are veils upon veils (to use a Shelleyan figure) which conceal (or should I say protect?) that utter loneliness which stands desperately at bay or seeks desperately to escape, in the far recesses of every human personality. But some of the outermost veils are penetrated by the biographer. Knowing, a little more closely, one great human spirit is one of the most exciting of all possible adventures, whether or not the knowledge may be adequately communicated. It is so thrilling that it always makes one seem queer to his friends, especially when a fourth at bridge is needed.

No one ever wrote a real biography without becoming acquainted with a most interesting collection of his own contemporaries. I have always admired the way in which Charles J. Finger some years ago took cognizance of this fact in dedicating his *Frontier Ballads* to "My horse Turpin, that died under the saddle at Palliaike; Agnes of the three-masted schooner, Martha Gale . . . Mysterious Billy Smith . . . Turner who fell at Bloomfontein . . . A. B. Calder, world's champion raconteur . . . Bruce Smith, police expert . . . Boozy Dick, shipwrecked with me near Cape Horn"—and about a dozen others. As it happens no such gloriously flamboyant acquaintances beset my path, but, like every biographer, I can name a few very vivid personalities. To wit:

The elderly Cambridge spinster, relict of the spacious times of Dr. Eliot, whose brother had been present when Captain Silsbee had prevailed upon the half-reluctant Dr. Eliot to accept several precious Shelley manuscripts as a gift. I was trying to discover what had happened to one of the manuscripts which the library had no record of ever receiving. But the lady thought I was a graduate student writing a thesis, and furthermore that I was intimating something dishonorable about her brother or Dr. Eliot—and she trampled upon me accordingly.

The enterprising, semi-invalid young man in a Pennsylvania town who had developed a clever skin-game in answering scholars' advertisements for information, and whom I met only by correspondence, in the rather amusing process of being skinned by him.

Mr. T. J. Wise, one of England's greatest bibliographers and book-collectors, latterly charged obliquely with being also one of her cleverest forgers of first editions. Mr. Wise was a former friend of Browning, Swinburne, and Morris, and a life-long admirer of Shelley. I had corresponded with him for years before I met him. When I last saw him he was suffering from the results of a recent stroke; his enunciation was thick and sometimes almost impossible to understand; and he was under the constant care of a nurse. But he insisted on my spending an hour or two with him every Saturday afternoon, during which he would concentrate fiercely on suggesting clues to be followed in the solution of some ten different searches for vanished materials. Several of these quests were successfully concluded through his aid, though all of them seemed lost hopes.

A nameless Welsh graduate student who happened to be hanging around the reading room of the University College of North Wales at the moment I discovered the newspaper account of Shelley's Welsh activities that I spoke of earlier. It was spring vacation; there was no one around except the librarian; I had another engagement which prevented my copying the article at the time, and there seemed no way at the moment to get it copied. This student, never having seen or heard of me before, overheard part of my conversation with the librarian and interrupted to offer to make a copy for me—nor would he accept any pay for doing so.

Bob Owen, M.A., of Creosor, Penrhyndeudraeth, North Wales, a self-educated former colliery clerk who had lost his job in the hard times and had turned antiquarian. He knew all the family histories and records of the region and had been given an honorary degree of M.A. by University College. Reaching his home was an adventure in itself. He lived in a little hamlet on the side of a mountain and could be reached only after winding several miles around a mountainside on a road that was exactly the width of an automobile. A bicycle could hardly have passed us. I have never seen a house so crammed with books and papers. Books in the sitting-room, books in the bedrooms, the pantry, the dining-room—books everywhere—he showed them all to us. Except for the children, there didn't seem to be much else.

Bob Owen himself is a very dynamic little Welshman. He didn't bother with collar and tie, but the burnished head of a gold collar button in the neckband of his shirt was like a big gun with which he kept you covered while he talked. Over very lively black eyes that bored through you he supported a thick pent-house of the longest eyebrows I have ever seen. They fascinated me even in memory, and I resolved, when I was thrown into his company later,

to satisfy myself as to their length. After some calculation I decided that they were between an inch and an inch and a half. His talk had an explosive energy, and if you stood within close range you actually got some of the shrapnel. Later I had a whole series of adventures with him in Carnarvon, where he was helping me with some local inquiries. I hope that in presenting the picturesque vigor of Bob Owen I have not overshot the mark and held him up to ridicule, for in many ways I respect him more than most of the more pretentious scholars I know. Considering the limitations under which he worked, I have never met a scholar who made me feel more humble by comparison.

If there were only time I should like to sketch briefly a dozen or more characters, acquaintance with whom I might honestly call an intellectual adventure: the grandson of Shelley's friend Ned Williams; the great-nephew of Thomas Jefferson Hogg; the retired art-critic and book notes editor of the London *Times* who flitted like a bird about his amazingly dusty, murky old library collecting faded clippings that might furnish me with stray clues; the town clerks of four or five British towns and villages whose courteous, efficient aid filled me with admiration for the British Civil Service; the delightfully hospitable old lady who lived for eighty years or more in Shelley's house at Tremadoc; the old gentleman of Carnarvon who took me in off the street, on my own introduction, to try to help me find further information about his great-grandfather who had once gone bail for Shelley; (here my helper, Bob Owen, proved a liability by engaging in a violent dispute on Welsh and Irish characteristics which I feared might get us thrown out of the house); the English scholar who remembered forty years back, to the time when his father had made a copy of a vanished letter I was seeking, and who searched among the family papers and finally produced it for me; the English librarian who told me how *we* had recently discovered a new letter of Keats which it happened by an odd coincidence I had discovered myself; Miss L. A. Jones, who lived with a dog and her stock of antiques in a little stone cottage by a Welsh country lane and assured me that she had an unknown diary of Shelley, his desk, with a secret drawer; and who gave me a snuff box which she said had been left in the region by the "dear boy"—and a great many others whom I should be loth to forget. But time presses, and I must give an instance or two of still another type of biographer's adventures.

The first of these resulted in considerable agitation for some of the officials of the British Museum. To show you that some days of a biographer may be actually crowded with adventure, I must mention that it happened on the



same day as my discovery of the anonymous newspaper editor's identity and my experience at the boy's preparatory school, as previously related. I was on the trail of several documents which at one time or another had been sold at Sotheby's auction rooms in London. Sotheby's sales-catalogues, with notes of the purchasers, had been deposited in the British Museum. I explained to the proper official that the only possible way of searching scores and scores of such catalogues was to go to the catalogues rather than have them brought to me. He agreed, and made an engagement for me to meet an official of the library at a stated time and place next morning. A colleague of mine who wanted a look at the same catalogues asked leave to accompany me, so two of us turned up at the rendezvous. Our guide was as silent and impressive almost as a guide in a Gothic novel. Gravely he led us through several rooms and halls, to an empty room where he told us to stand near the wall. He pressed something on the wall, and the square of floor began sinking with us. We had hardly recovered from our realization that this was a lift when we stopped on a cement floor only some six feet below. We left this room by a winding vaulted passageway of rough masonry, so low we had to stoop to traverse it. After that we walked some two hundred yards through a perfect maze of rooms and passages till we reached the room where the catalogues were stored. Here our guide was leaving us, but we insisted on knowing first how we were to get out. "Oh," he said, "we'll send a man for you at lunch time, and if you wish to get out earlier you can hail some attendant who may be passing within ear-shot."

As it happened, we soon discovered that the catalogues would not help us. We heard and hailed a passing attendant and were shown out by another way. My companion remained in the Reading Room of the British Museum, and I went to the periodical library at Hendon to discover the identity of Shelley's unknown newspaper editor. About the middle of the afternoon my friend in the Reading Room became aware of some commotion about him. Attendants were going about, peering at the various readers. Eventually one came to him, looking worried. "Aren't you Professor X?" he demanded, "and weren't you with Professor White examining the Sotheby catalogues this morning?" Receiving an affirmative answer, he exploded, "Then where *is* Professor White? We have been looking everywhere. He is lost somewhere down there under the Museum."

A few weeks before this experience we had an adventure which at the time seemed capable almost of international complications. We were on the way to Barnstaple in North Devonshire, where I wished to search the very fine

collection of local records to find some trace of the conviction of Shelley's servant there for disseminating radical literature. Incidentally, the reason I found nothing there to my purpose was that during several years in the early 19th century all the records of Barnstaple for several centuries had been regarded as worthless and were kept in open boxes in a kind of porch. Small boys who passed by had a habit of taking a few papers home for their mothers to cover jam-pots with. In this way most of the early 19th century records vanished before the documents were again put under cover.

On the way to Barnstaple we stopped at Bristol over Easter Sunday. Rather late in the afternoon we wandered into the fine old 14th century church of St. Augustine the Less. A service had evidently just been concluded; the doors were open and the church was dimly-lit, but there was no one about except one man, pacing thoughtfully up and down, whom we took to be a verger. We thought it strange that he looked directly at us, and yet ignored us completely. We looked about the church for a while and then sat down in a pew to see if our Baedeker contained anything of its history. The silent attendant walked within a yard of us as if we had never existed. He then paused before a door and stood perfectly still for several moments, after which he opened the door and vanished.

A few moments later we were ready to leave also. But the door was locked. Every other door was locked. The windows were too high to be reached. Every time we prowled past the box in which visitors were supposed to leave contributions we felt particularly enraged. I shook the front door vigorously and yelled, but nobody heard—the church sat back some distance from the street and on a higher level. We finally came to the conclusion that the only means of escape before the next service was to break down the rather flimsy front door. But I was deterred by a vision of the next day's headlines: "*American Vandal on Easter Sunday Wrecks 600-years-old Church!*" I resumed pounding and yelling, and this time some one came.

A very suspicious voice outside wanted to know what was wrong. Fortunately the man believed my story that we had been locked in by a malicious verger; *he* even offered to batter down the door. I sent him for the police instead, and in a few moments was telling my story through the keyhole to two officers. They undertook to find either the verger or the rector, and in thirty minutes our door was unlocked. We boiled forth, about as angry as it was possible to be. The two policemen stood even more stiffly on the other side. I immediately pitched in with a demand for an explanation. But our rescuer was the rector; and he was not amused that I had mistaken him for the

verger. He simply maintained with great dignity and conviction that the whole episode was impossible—he had known the verger for many years and the thing simply could not have happened.

After considerable discussion of the possibility of what had happened, we returned to our hotel, and I decided to write the rector a note demanding a full investigation. His answer to this note, received two weeks later, cleared up the whole mystery. Our jailer was not the verger, but the organist, who had remained after service to practice. He was a man almost completely blind, and had never seen us in the church, but before locking the door he had paused and listened for a moment to see if he could hear anyone. I am afraid the principal result of this adventure was to make us very cautious about entering strange churches.

Such episodes as these must serve only as samples; it would take a great deal of time to tell a dozen or so more on the same scale. With a certain amount of exaggeration they might be presented, if not as detective stories, then as a prospectus for a collection of such stories, with some such chapter headings as the following:

I. Adventure of the Lousy Book.

How the Author, on returning home one day, found his manuscript being officially de-loused, because a pair of robins were raising a family on the window-ledge adjoining his study desk.

II. Adventure of the Substituted Portrait.

How a protrait of Leigh Hunt in 1822 became a portrait of Shelley in 1905.

III. The Death of a Grandfather.

How the Author of a Biography Rejoices when his first important character is liquidated.

IV. Adventure of the Wandering Documents.

How the Author Went to England to Find Certain Documents that Were in America, and How They Came Back to England while he was there.

V. Adventure of the Belated Dinner Guests.

How, After Dining Well with a Poet and Fellow-Shelleyan, it was necessary to Walk a Mile to a Pub to Procure a Taxi.

VI. The Author Commits Theft.

How He Could Not Escape from the Bibliothèque Nationale Until He had Stolen a Card from a Frenchman.



## VII. The Lawyer's Attic.

How a Lawyer's Attic in a Welsh Town Yielded Up Papers After  
130 Years, and How the Same Attic Yielded Similar Papers Some  
Months Later.

## VIII. Adventures in Psychologizing.

How the Subject Evinces a Strange Tendency to Reproduce in his  
Own Life Episodes from Books.

## IX. Adventures in Handwriting.

How records were confused and how they were again clarified,  
Mirror-writing that had no significance, the Newspaper Handwriting  
Expert who read Claire Clairmont's character.

Possibly that would be enough to indicate that the biographer, like his subject, has moments of adventure. Perhaps because he has to submerge himself while writing his book, it may partly excuse his coming forth afterwards and parading himself. But in any event, here the story ends. An unseen auditor, a slender, pink-cheeked, tousle-haired and very earnest looking young man, who was entitled to a larger place in this lecture, has been making remarks audible only to your speaker. "At a time like this, when all civilization seems threatened by an evil tyranny, why not say something about the invincible spirit of liberty?"

Yet were life a charnel where  
Hope lay confined with Despair;  
Yet were truth a sacred lie,  
Love were lust—If Liberty  
Lent not life its soul of light,  
Hope its iris of delight,  
Truth its prophet's robe to wear,  
Love its power to give and bear.

"Why not try to show what it demands to win and hold true freedom?"

To defy Power, which seems omnipotent;  
To love, and bear; to hope till Hope creates  
From its own wreck the thing it contemplates;  
Neither to change, nor falter, nor repent;  
This, like thy glory, Titan is to be  
Good, great and joyous, beautiful and free:  
This is alone Life, Joy, Empire, and Victory.

“Why not assert once more,” he demands, “that imagination, true insight of which poetry is a principal voice, lifts the veil from the hidden beauty of the world—a beauty which I have repeatedly personified?”

For she was beautiful; her beauty made

The bright world dim, and everything beside  
Seemed like the fleeting image of a shade.

## A POEM FOR ARTHUR PEARSE\*

The question before us, gentlemen,  
Is our good friend Arthur Pearse,  
Who didn't mind working,  
But couldn't stand listening every Wednesday  
    noon to a lot of windbags who might have  
    talked better but who couldn't possibly  
    have talked worse.  
He said he'd rather work his farm out there at  
    the fork of the roads  
And fight nematodes.  
  
And everybody knew he was still about  
    as hard as when he was a top sergeant in Cuba,  
Or when he went to Africa and swore at  
    Kru-boys in a mixture of Nebraskan and Yoruba,  
And that he wasn't a squealer  
About eating raw fish for a year in Japan or  
    fighting bugs in Venezuela;  
And when he was whirling at the end of a rope  
    over a Guatemalan cenote  
He didn't howl like a coyote  
But only got dizzy, and some of the Indians thought  
    he was drunk but others thought "Is he?";  
And when he was prone on his belly  
(With a tortilla inside of it) hunting parasites in a smelly  
Bat-cave that had a very narrow enclosure,  
His comparatively elevated and slowly vanishing  
    rear-end still preserved a strong and dignified composure;  
And when he collected a bag of snakes in the Eno  
    swamps and they got loose in the kitchen sink  
He met the situation with senatorial calm and  
    gathered them up again when the Branscomb kids  
    next door raised a stink,  
And, ignoring the metaphorical smells,  
He wrote another chapter in his philosophical magnum  
    opus, *Hell's Bells*.



But since he always said what he meant and meant  
    what he said,  
Nobody could stop him when he swore he was quittin',  
And all the little gab-fest boys could  
    do by way of benediction  
(And without risking any possible homicidal friction)  
Was to say that it was fittin'  
That somebody should write a poem on Arthur  
    Pearse as a kind of token  
Of a lot of things better left unspoken.  
They thought he might listen  
To a poem like this'n,  
As a kind of return for all the poems on them that  
    he had written;  
And even if it couldn't be as mendacious  
    or as terse  
As all those kindly birthday poems by  
    Poet Laureate Pearse,  
                    One thing was sure—  
                    It could be truer.

But all it says is, at the Wednesday table  
A chair stands always waiting and no one  
    shall fill it  
But Arthur Pearse—  
Nobody else is able.

N. I. W.

\* Newman White was one of a group of eight or ten members of the faculty at Duke University, from various departments, who have for many years met weekly on Wednesday for luncheon and good table-talk. This poem, occasioned by the retirement in June 1948 of Arthur Sperry Pearse, Professor of Zoology since 1926, is typical of Newman White's affectionate banter.

## PARAPHRASES FROM THE SPANISH

### I

See, in the corner, flung  
Long underfoot,  
Dusty and loosely strung  
The harp! long mute.

Where the stiff branches swing,  
Silent, the bird  
Sits—but in leafy spring  
Music is heard.

So, in the soul's recesses  
Dead Genius lies,  
Whom then a Voice addresses:  
"Lazarus! Rise!"

### II

The honeysuckle will remount completely  
The gray wall where your garden lies in bloom,  
And fill the air, each May again, more sweetly,  
With all the world's most wonderful perfume.

They will come back, the dark-winged swallows, nesting  
Beneath your chamber window as before,  
And, flitting past, will seem to call, half-jesting,  
"Come to the window, Dear; come to the door."

—But not the self-same birds that seemed to hover  
(Because your beauty held them, and my yearning)  
And call our names—the loved one and the lover—  
They will not be the self-same birds returning.

N. I. W.

## THE PUBLISHED WRITINGS OF NEWMAN IVEY WHITE

ROBERT W. CHRIST

THIS bibliography is intended to provide a complete record of Newman White's published work, with the exception of newspaper articles, interviews, and the myriad book reviews he wrote over a long period of years for many newspapers and periodicals. (He was a regular reviewer for the *South Atlantic Quarterly*.) Several "review articles" are, however, included on the ground that the book in question served here only as the stepping stone for a critical paper.

The bibliography is arranged in two principal groups: separate publications, and writings in periodicals or collected volumes; the second group is again divided into prose and poetry. Within each group the arrangement is chronological. His scholarly writings, beginning with a paper on the collection of folklore in 1916, show the maintenance and development of his two principal literary interests: Shelley and the English Romantics, and American folklore, especially that of the Negro.

Newman White edited and contributed to his high school yearbook in Greensboro in 1909, then entered Trinity College in the fall of 1909; the very next item in this bibliography is a poem in the October, 1909, issue of *The Archive*, the undergraduate literary magazine (i.e., *The Trinity Archive* through vol. XXXVII, no. 3, for December 1924; with the establishment of Duke University, the name was changed to *The Archive*. It is cited throughout under this current form of the name.) Beginning with his sophomore year (1910/11), there is a contribution from his pen in every issue save two throughout his undergraduate years. In 1913/14, when he remained at Trinity as a graduate student and assistant in English, he contributed to all but one issue, and the continuing contributions throughout later years testify to his interest in creative literary endeavors on the campus. In all, more than sixty poems and several short stories or articles appeared in *The Archive*, and many book reviews (not included here). Many of his contributions appeared over his nickname, "Ni," the pseudonym, "N'importe," or were unsigned. In his own copies of *The Archive* for 1910-1915 (vol. XXIV-XXVIII), now in the Duke University Library, he has signed in ink his full name to many of



these anonymous or pseudonymous writings, and many bear his manuscript corrections. An asterisk (\*) in the bibliography indicates items which are attributed solely on the basis of the pseudonym or internal evidence.

Newman White's doctoral dissertation (Harvard, 1918) was *Shelley's Dramatic Poems*; this has not been published in full. Also unpublished are two major addresses: "Shelley as I See Him," read before the Friends of Duke University Library on March 25, 1940; and "Legend and Fact in Biography," delivered at Yale University on December 6, 1943 as one of the series of Bergen Lectures. The first volume of the projected five-volume edition of the Frank C. Brown Collection of North Carolina Folklore, which he was editing at the time of his death, is now in press. His personal papers and correspondence have been placed in the Duke University Library, where the manuscript and author's proof of the *Portrait of Shelley* are also preserved.

#### I. SEPARATE PUBLICATIONS

G. H. S. Annual, 1909. [Greensboro, N. C., 1909.] 88 p.

Newman I. White is listed as head of the Editorial Staff of this yearbook of the students of Greensboro High School.

The Chanticleer, v. 1, 1912. Durham, N. C., 1912. 232 p.

N. I. White is listed as an Assistant Editor of this yearbook of the students of Trinity College.

The Chanticleer, v. 2, 1913. Durham, N. C., 1913. 240 p.

N. I. White is listed as Editor-in-Chief.

Folk-Lore primer. [Auburn, Ala.]: Folk-Lore Committee of the Alabama Association of Teachers of English [1917?]. 20 p.

Published in the name of the Committee, of which White was chairman for the year 1917-1918.

An Anthology of verse by American Negroes; edited with a critical introduction, biographical sketches of the authors, and bibliographical notes by Newman Ivey White . . . and Walter Clinton Jackson . . . with an introduction by James Hardy Dillard. (Trinity College Publication.) Durham, N. C.: Trinity College Press, 1924. 250 p.

American Negro folk-songs. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1928. 501 p.

The Best of Shelley; edited, with an introduction and notes, by Newman Ivey White. (Nelson's English series.) New York: T. Nelson and Sons, 1932. 531 p.  
Second printing, New York, Ronald Press, 1945.

Report [of the] Committee for investigation and recommendation on student affairs; March 8th, 1934. [Durham, N. C.]: Trinity College, Duke University [1934]. 11 p.

Signed by the committee of twelve members, including White.

- The Unextinguished hearth: Shelley and his contemporary critics. (Duke University Publication.) Durham, N. C.: Duke University Press, 1938. 397 p.
- Shelley. New York: A. A. Knopf, 1940. 2 v.
- Also London: Secker & Warburg, 1947.
- Portrait of Shelley. New York: A. A. Knopf, 1945. 482 p.
- A condensation of his *Shelley*, 1940.
- Duke University and the future. Durham, N. C.: [Duke University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors] 1946. 8 p.
- A paper read at a meeting of the Chapter on November 27, 1945.

## II. WRITINGS IN PERIODICALS AND COLLECTED VOLUMES

### I. PROSE

- "A Historical incident [humorous story]." G. H. S. Annual, 1909: 35-36.
- "Catullus and the Alexandrian school of literature [essay]." The Archive, XXIV: 229-233 (Mar. 1911).
- "A Volume of Keats [story]." The Archive, XXIV: 291-296 (Apr. 1911).
- "Ye 'Prentice turned alchemist [story]." The Archive, XXV: 168-173 (Jan./Feb. 1912).
- \*"College ideals [essay]." The Archive, XXVIII: 188-190 (Feb. 1915).
- \*"The Confessions of a theme-reader [essay]." The Archive, XXVIII: 286-288 (Apr. 1915).
- \*"The Compact [story]." The Archive, XXIX: 51-56 (Nov. 1915).
- \*"Mike's debut [story]." The Archive, XXIX: 103-111 (Dec. 1915).
- "The Collection of folk-lore." Proceedings of the Alabama Educational Association, XXXV: 119-126 (June 1916).
- [Trinity College songs]. The Archive, XXXI: 180-181 (Dec. 1917).
- Long extract from a letter to President Few, relating to the need for more Trinity College songs.
- "Racial traits in the Negro song." Sewanee Review, XXVIII: 396-404 (July 1920).
- "The Historical and personal background of Shelley's *Hellas*." South Atlantic Quarterly, XX: 52-60 (Jan. 1921).
- "Shelley's *Swell-foot the Tyrant* in relation to contemporary political satires." Publications of the Modern Language Association of America, XXXVI: 332-346 (Sept. 1921).
- "American Negro poetry." South Atlantic Quarterly, XX: 304-322 (Oct. 1921).
- "Racial feeling in Negro poetry." South Atlantic Quarterly, XXI: 14-29 (Jan. 1922).
- "The English Romantic writers as dramatists." Sewanee Review, XXX: 206-215 (Apr. 1922).
- "Shelley's *Charles the First*." Journal of English and Germanic Philology, XXI: 431-441 (July 1922).
- "Wilfred Blunt's diaries." South Atlantic Quarterly, XXI: 360-364 (Oct. 1922).

- A review article based on W. S. Blunt, *My diaries, 1888-1914*, New York, 1921.
- "Shelley's debt to Alma Murray." *Modern Language Notes*, XXXVII: 411-415 (Nov. 1922).
- "An Italian 'imitation' of Shelley's *The Cenci*." *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, XXXVII: 683-690 (Dec. 1922).
- "The Shelley Society again." *Modern Language Notes*, XXXIX: 18-22 (Jan. 1924).
- "The Beautiful angel and his biographers." *South Atlantic Quarterly*, XXIV: 73-85 (Jan. 1925).
- A review article based on André Maurois, *Ariel: the life of Shelley*, New York, 1924; and O. W. Campbell, *Shelley and the unromantics*, New York, 1924.
- "Literature and the law of libel: Shelley and the radicals of 1840-1842." *Studies in Philology*, XXII: 34-47 (Jan. 1925).
- Shelley's *Prometheus Unbound*; or, Every man his own allegorist." *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, XL: 172-184 (Mar. 1925).
- "John Masefield—an estimate." *South Atlantic Quarterly*, XXVI: 189-200 (Apr. 1927).
- A review article based on John Masefield, *The Collected works . . .* New York, 1925.
- "The White man in the woodpile; some influences on Negro secular folk-songs." *American Speech*, IV: 207-215 (Feb. 1929).
- "Shelley and the active radicals of the early nineteenth century." *South Atlantic Quarterly*, XXIX: 248-261 (July 1930).
- "Teaching versus research." *School and Society*, XXXV: 109-113 (Jan. 23, 1932).
- "Labor helps itself: a case history." *South Atlantic Quarterly*, XXXII: 346-364 (Oct. 1933).
- The story of the Durham Labor and Materials Exchange, organized by White and operated under his direction from February 3 to August 26, 1933, to supplement Community Relief during the darkest days of the depression.
- "Shelley at Oxford." *Times (London) Literary Supplement*, Nov. 16, 1933, p. 795.
- A letter to the Editor, calling attention to a letter in the *Anti-Jacobin Review* for February, 1812, which refers to Shelley and appears to be the first published account of the poet.
- "Shelley's biography: the primary sources." *Studies in Philology*, XXXI: 472-486 (July 1934).
- "Keats and the periodicals of his time." (With George L. Marsh.) *Modern Philology*, XXXII: 37-53 (Aug. 1934).
- "Academic freedom and tenure: Converse College." (With Harry DeMerle Wolf.) *Bulletin of the American Association of University Professors*, XX: 434-447 (Nov. 1934).
- "The Romantic movement: a selective and critical bibliography for the year 1937 [-1947]." *ELH: a Journal of English Literary History*, V (1938) [-XV (1948)].



11 "A combination of circumstances" caused the Shelleys to  
~~It had been the Shelleys' plan~~ to return to  
 Naples late in May and remain there until winter. <sup>(21) (18)</sup>  
 On April 20 however, Shelley was again "very unwell",  
 and, though there are no further reports of his illness,  
 it seemed wise to advance the date of their departure  
 from Rome. ~~The doctors seemed to agree~~ <sup>Mary believed</sup> that the Roman  
 air produced "cold ~~and~~ depression and even fever" in  
 Shelley, and the doctors recommended Naples. <sup>(21)</sup> Mary  
 wrote to Mrs. Gisborne to urge her to accept the invitation  
 to visit them in Naples that Shelley had already pressed  
 upon the Gisbornes in a former letter. They now ex-  
 pected to leave Rome on May 7. Meanwhile Shelley's  
 health again improved and the pleasant intimacy  
 with Mrs. Curran developed, so that the last week  
 of May found Shelley's family still in Rome. <sup>[insert]</sup>

On May 25 William Shelley fell ill. <sup>With this</sup>  
 he had always <sup>enjoyed</sup> ~~been in~~ excellent health and  
<sup>the next day</sup> spirits ~~he was~~ better next day, but it was two or  
 three days more before he could be pronounced ~~as~~  
 convalescent from an attack of worms. As the  
 doctors were of the opinion that he suffered from  
 the heat of the southern climate his parents thought  
 it unwise to take him still further south, to Naples.  
 Moreover, Mary Shelley was expecting <sup>to have</sup> ~~to have~~ another <sup>baby</sup>  
 in ~~November or December~~ <sup>October</sup>, and was already under



White contributed bibliographical and critical notes to these annual bibliographies in the March issues of *ELH*.

"Unpublished letters." *Times* (London) Literary Supplement, Sept. 10, 1938, p. 584. A letter to the Editor, calling attention to unpublished letters of Shelley, Burns, Coleridge, Hazlitt, and others in a grangerized edition of Moore's *Byron* in the British Museum.

"Probable dates of composition of Shelley's 'Letter to Maria Gisborne' and 'Ode to a Skylark.'" *Studies in Philology*, XXXVI: 524-528 (July 1939).

"Shelley in Wales." *Min y Traeth*, II: 184-194 (July 1939).

*Min y Traeth* is a publication of the Portmadoc (Wales) County School.

"The Development, use and abuse of interpretation in biography." *English Institute Annual*, 1942. New York: Columbia University Press, 1943. Pp. 29-58.

"Academic freedom and tenure: Winthrop College." (With William McGuffey Hepburn.) *Bulletin of the American Association of University Professors*, XXVIII: 173-196 (Apr. 1942).

"Organization of the Frank C. Brown collection of North Carolina folklore." *Yearbook of the American Philosophical Society*, 1945. Philadelphia: The Society, 1946. Pp. 218-219.

A report made as the recipient of a research grant.

"*The Shelley Legend* examined." *Studies in Philology*, XLIII: 522-544 (July 1946).

Robert Metcalf Smith and others, *The Shelley legend*, New York, 1945.

"Thomas James Wise: friend of Duke University Library; passages from his correspondence with Professor Newman I. White." (Compiled by Ellen Frances Frey.) *Library Notes*; a Bulletin issued for the Friends of Duke University Library, no. 18: 3-15 (July 1947).

Contains long passages from letters of White to Wise, regarding the development of the University Library; the correspondence is now in the Duke University Library.

## 2. POETRY

"Noughty Nine." *G. H. S. Annual*, 1909: 32.

\*"Deliverance will come." *G. H. S. Annual*, 1909: 47

Printed as the senior hymn, "revised by poet;" N. I. White was senior class poet at Greensboro High School, 1909.

"To ———." *The Archive*, XXIII: 21 (Oct. 1909).

"The Dreamer." *The Archive*, XXIV: 3 (Oct. 1910).

"The Demagogue (To T. R.)." *The Archive*, XXIV: 30 (Oct. 1910).

"At a Way-station." *The Archive*, XXIV: 74 (Nov. 1910).

"A Sonnet (After Wordsworth) [humorous poem]." *The Archive*, XXIV: 149 (Dec. 1910).

"Reciprocity [humorous poem]." *The Archive*, XXIV: 149 (Dec. 1910).

"A Farewell to 'Math' [humorous poem]." *The Archive*, XXIV: 150 (Dec. 1910).



- "An Idyll in Silhouette." The Archive, XXIV: 173 (Feb. 1911).  
 [Humorous poem: "If a Laddie in the Street . . ."] The Archive, XXIV: 212 (Feb. 1911).
- "To Paul Lawrence Dunbar [sonnet]." The Archive, XXIV: 301 (Apr. 1911).
- "Winds of Destiny." The Archive, XXIV: 302 (Apr. 1911).
- "To a Musician." The Archive, XXIV: 364 (May 1911).
- "To the Thomas Cat (A Parody on Milton's 'To the Nightingale') [humorous sonnet]." The Archive, XXIV: 376 (May 1911).
- "Scene Shifts." The Archive, XXV: 3 (Oct. 1911).
- "Wanderings [sonnet]." The Archive, XXV: 19 (Oct. 1911).
- "A Geometrical Soliloquy [humorous poem]." The Archive, XXV: 38 (Oct. 1911).
- "'When 'Orace Smote 'Is Bloomin' Lyre'—(See R. K.'s 'Barrack Room Ballads') [humorous poem]." The Archive, XXV: 38 (Oct. 1911).
- "Insect Philosophies." The Archive, XXV: 61 (Nov. 1911).
- "The Silent Songs." The Archive, XXV: 75 (Nov. 1911).
- "Jim Key's Bonehead Philosophy [humorous poem]." The Archive, XXV: 89 (Nov. 1911).
- "Time Wreckage." The Archive, XXV: 132 (Dec. 1911).
- "An Essay on Pie: a Devilish Composition by the Printer's Devil [humorous poem]." The Archive, XXV: 150-151 (Dec. 1911).
- "The Idealist." The Chanticleer, I (1912): 60.
- "The Will-o'-the Wisp." The Archive, XXV: 181-182 (Jan./Feb. 1912).
- "The Sons of Adam." The Archive, XXV: 213-214 (Mar. 1912).
- "The Illusionist." The Archive, XXV: 269 (Apr. 1912).
- "Minutes." The Archive, XXV: 299 (Apr. 1912).
- "Rondeau of the Indignant Optimist [humorous poem]." The Archive, XXV: 314-315 (Apr. 1912).
- "Flower Fancies: 'Est Rosa Flos Veneris.'" The Archive, XXV: 333 (May 1912).
- "Flower Fancies: The Violet and I." The Archive, XXV: 333-334 (May 1912).
- "The Shades." The Archive, XXVI: 3-5 (Oct. 1912).
- "Catullus V [translation]." The Archive, XXVI: 22 (Oct. 1912).
- "The Inn-Tower Speaks." The Archive, XXVI: 50-51 (Oct. 1912).
- "Catullus VII [translation]." The Archive, XXVI: 122 (Nov. 1912).
- "Blue Eyes." The Archive, XXVI: 149 (Dec. 1912).
- "Campus Singing." The Chanticleer, II (1913): 184.
- "The Inn's Farewell." The Archive, XXVI: 321-322 (May 1913). Revised and reprinted, in part, in The Archive, XXXVII: 251 (Mar. 1925).
- \*"To Chlais [sonnet]." The Archive, XXVI: 337 (May 1913).
- "Campus Strolling." The Archive, XXVI: 366 (May 1913).
- "A Distant Song." The Archive, XXVII: 19 (Oct. 1913).
- "Catullus XXXI (On Coming Home from Foreign Travels) [translation]." The Archive, XXVII: 51 (Nov. 1913).

- "The Co-Ed Annabel Lee." *The Archive*, XXVII: 70-71 (Nov. 1913). Reprinted in *The Chanticleer*, III (1914): 250.
- "Altar Lilies." *The Archive*, XXVII: 101 (Dec. 1913).
- "Jim Key on the Repression of the Poor." *The Archive*, XXVII: 152 (Dec. 1913).
- "Song of the College Mail [humorous poem]." *The Chanticleer*, III (1914): 256.
- "Summons." *The Chanticleer*, III (1914): 114.
- "The Romanticist Awakes." *The Archive*, XXVII: 161 (Feb. 1914).
- "Cry of the Battle-Weary." *The Archive*, XXVII: 232 (Mar. 1914).
- "Birthdays." *The Archive*, XXVII: 258 (Mar. 1914).
- "Ballade of Smiles (Being a Complaint of His Lady)." *The Archive*, XXVII: 287 (Apr./May 1914).
- "Alumni Poem (Read at Alumni Dinner, Commencement, 1914)." *The Archive*, XXVIII: 169-171 (Dec. 1914).
- \*"The Ravings of a Whitmaniac [burlesque poem]." *The Chanticleer*, IV (1915): 296-298.
- "Song of Trinity." *The Archive*, XXXI: 157 (Dec. 1917).
- "We'll Go No More to Beaufort Town." *The Archive*, XXXII: 131-132 (Jan. 1920).
- "Foolish Time." *The Archive*, XXXII: 211 (Feb. 1920).
- "Radio." *The Archive*, XXXVI: 305 (Apr. 1924). Reprinted in R. P. Harriss, ed., *The Archive Anthology*; verse by little-known and well-known writers, Durham, N. C.: Duke University Press, 1926, p. 66. Also reprinted in W. M. Blackburn, ed., *One and Twenty*; Duke narrative and verse, 1924-1945, [Durham, N. C.]: Duke University Press, 1945, p. 187.
- "To his Young Cup Bearer (Catullus 27) [translation]." *The Archive*, XXXVI: 322 (Apr. 1924).
- "Sonnet: Upon this day let all things quiet be . . ." *The Archive*, XXXVIII, 1: 14 (Oct. 1925). Reprinted under the title "For a Birthday" in R. P. Harriss, ed., *The Archive Anthology*, 1926, p. 35.
- "Clais Returns." *The Archive*, XXXVIII, 2: 3 (Nov. 1925). Reprinted in R. P. Harriss, ed., *The Archive Anthology*, 1926, p. 43. Also reprinted in W. M. Blackburn, ed., *One and Twenty*, 1945, p. 189. Also reprinted in *The Archive*, LXII, 2: 16 (Jan. 1949).
- "In a Grave-Yard." *The Archive*, XXXVIII, 5: 4 (Feb./Mar. 1926).
- "Nosce Te-Ipsum: A Medieval Parable (With Apologies to La Fontaine)." *The Archive*, XLIV, 1: 7-8 (Oct. 1931).
- "Barabbas to his Lieutenant on Mount Calvary [sonnet]." *The Archive*, XLIV, 1: 8 (Oct. 1931). Reprinted in W. M. Blackburn, ed., *One and Twenty*, 1945, p. 188. Also reprinted in *The Archive*, LXII, 2: 16 (Jan. 1949).
- "The Fox and the Lion." *The Archive*, XLIV, 4: 17 (Jan. 1932).
- "Examination Grades [humorous sonnet]." *The Archive*, XLIV, 4: 18 (Jan. 1932).
- "Spring Warning [sonnet]." *The Archive*, XLIV, 5: 9 (Feb. 1932). Revised and

reprinted under the title "Mid-March in Hope Valley" in W. M. Blackburn, ed., One and Twenty, 1945, p. 190. Also reprinted in The Archive, LXII, 2: 16 (Jan. 1949).

"'If There were Dreams to Sell, What Would You Buy?'" The Archive, XLIV, 5: 13 (Feb. 1932).

"The Crow and the Serpent." The Archive, XLIV, 5: 13 (Feb. 1932).

"On 'A Catalogue of Rare and Valuable Books' [sonnet]." Library Notes; a Bulletin issued for the Friends of Duke University Library, no. 20: 1 (July 1948).

### CAMPUS DOGWOOD, APRIL

Now that we see, miraculously white  
This scattered dogwood, shaded by a band  
Of slender, guardian pines—dark trees, that stand  
Distinct and calm, brown-boled, erect and slight—  
And now that in their depth, where filtered light  
Irregularly reaches, we command  
Remoter glimpses—beauty still at hand  
Yet so sequestered that our trivial sight  
Should never have obtruded—Who are we  
To speak of beauty fading? It abides  
Within the mind more firmly, being gone:  
Diana, Flora, slim Persephone,  
We know you now—the loveliness that glides  
Not past, but forward, always moving on.

N. I. W.



# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 25

January 1951

## GEORGE WASHINGTON CABLE LETTERS IN DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

MATTIE RUSSELL

THE ability with which George Washington Cable (1844-1925) recorded his observations of Creole life in New Orleans won for him a prominent place among local color writers in this country. From the first his stories were well received in the North, but they aroused a storm of protest among the Frenchmen of his native city. To reveal that all of their tribe were not of "unsullied white descent" and to have them speak in a quaint dialect was to insult the more sensitive of this proud and high-strung people.<sup>1</sup> And they, as well as most other Southerners, could not tolerate his sympathetic attitude toward the Negro. Upon him was heaped such abuse as can scarcely be imagined today.<sup>2</sup>

It would be difficult to find a way of life more foreign to the gay, impulsive, and luxury-loving Creoles than that of the hardworking, strict-Presbyterian Cable, and Edward Tinker has suggested that in weaving these fascinating characters into his stories, he may have experienced a degree of

psychological release from his own inhibited existence.<sup>3</sup> Early he became a zealot for religion and social betterment.

Cable's literary reputation rests largely on only three of his more than twenty volumes. These are *Old Creole Days*, a collection of eight stories, and *The Grandissimes* and *Dr. Sevier*, two novels; all were published before 1884. The explanations some historians of American literature have given for the deterioration of his writing are that "his evangelistic predisposition" came to subordinate the creative artist and that he moved North and left his source material.<sup>4</sup> Arlin Turner contends, however, that in only one of his novels did he "become more reformer than novelist," and no one knows whether he would have been able "to impart freshness to any stories after the first few" even if he had stayed in New Orleans.<sup>5</sup>

Cable was very conscious of criticism, especially from Creoles, whom he had drawn with affection and, as he

and some of them thought, with fairness and accuracy. Whether or not this is the reason he left the South is unknown, but by 1916 all was forgiven, even by the Creoles,<sup>6</sup> and he is now recognized as the first Southern writer to treat "objectively and realistically the life he saw around him."<sup>7</sup>

The letters printed here, from original manuscripts in the George Washington Flowers Collection of Southern Americana in Duke University Library, span a great part of Cable's literary career. Most of them are addressed to his good friend and editor, Robert Underwood Johnson (1853-1937), of Charles Scribner's Sons. This company published nearly all of Cable's writings,

many of them appearing first in its magazine, *Scribner's Monthly*, and its successor, *The Century*, of which Johnson was for many years associate editor and editor-in-chief. These letters give not only some insight into Cable's methods of writing, revision, and publication, and his genuine friendship with Johnson, but interesting sidelights also on his interest and association with the American Copyright League, American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Home-Culture Clubs; his views on sectionalism; his reading and lecture tours; the death of his first wife, his second marriage, and other personal matters.

New Orleans, Dec 24th 1879.

My dear Mr. Johnson:

After some unavoidable delay to supply chapter head'gs I send you Mar proofs. Please send Apl early.<sup>8</sup>

Your last two kind letters are highly appreciated & I am going to have a long pen & ink chat with you before long. Literature, as a profession, may be nearer to me now than ever before & I want your people to be ready to say what my expectations may reasonably be in that direction. I shall have my choice. At present am in full charge of the business—an excellent one—of the house I have been in so many years;<sup>9</sup> but if some capitalist should offer to buy it out—for instance—you see?—I might rush to the embrace of the muse—dear old girl!

This is confidential to you and Mess. Scribner & Co.

I will write again.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

New Orleans, Jan 24th 1880.

My dear Johnson:

Your very pleasant letter of 20th rec'd, also Ap'l proofs. The latter are corrected and go forward. I have changed the order of some of the earlier paragraphs [*sic*]. The way it now stands will never do—is disjointed, running from past to present & back again &

back again. As it will be when changed the preliminary talk is somewhat long, but bears upon a common focus and, once said, is not returned to. The story then moves on upon this track laid down and presently enters the episode of *Bras Coupé*. It will not do to divide this; at least it seems so to me.

As soon as I can I shall let you know what I shall do in the future, but have very little notion that I shall cease writing. Have served two masters so long that one might make me lonesome. I see no good reason why I should leave Louisiana; why should I? What advantage is supposeable? Your account of your struggle to live in the metropolis is—what you did not intend it should be—pathetic. I found myself wishing there was some way that I could make it easier for you.

I wish I had a chance to write another novel. I believe I know how to do it now. Every time I get a batch of proof I wish I could write my book over again. But that would not be best. I am ready now with a good theme & a good plot & only want *time*.

I did not keep run of Russell.<sup>10</sup> Knew he was in New Orleans, saw him once or twice. He persecuted me with allusions to one or two trivial favors I had done him & I avoided him. I might say a gentle word or two here for the poor wanderer, but I am painfully impressed with the cheapness of the charity we pour out over the dead whom we shunned while they lived. You have a right to know that he always spoke warmly & gratefully of "Mr. Johnson".

Yours truly  
Wm. C. Black & Co  
per G. W. Cable

New Orleans, Apl 12, 1880.

Mr. R. U. Johnson;

My dear Mr. Johnson:

Enclosed with this find July proof; also Mr. King's<sup>11</sup> letter, which is very flattering but is easier to swallow than your Irish editor's. O, that was fearful! So hurraed on I *could* write a novel *now* & hope to do so some day when I am not forced to cram the time with more remunerative occupations in order to keep the wind in my sails.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

You asked me once my favorite author. I failed to answer, never remembering your question at the right time until now. I have none. As for Thackery [*sic*] I hope to read him this summer. Have never read more than a few *lines* of his.<sup>12</sup>

G. W. C.

New Orleans, Feb'y 16, 1881.

Dear Johnson:

With this I send you the proofs of parts 2 & 3 *Madame Delphine*,<sup>13</sup> and also return the article of "*G. W. C. to the front again*". I am informed by this that I am no Southerner in heart. Well, what is a *Southerner*? Are there any Northerners? Are people treated as recreants because they do not subscribe themselves "Northerner?" *You* are an American, I presume; or—do I mistake?—maybe you are proud to be a Westerner, and



are always true to the West as distinguished from the E. N. or S. Notwithstanding which, you do implore the E. N. & S. to have done with sectional feeling! Ah! Alas! O! Oh! fie! fudge! pish! tush! zounds!

But to business. I insert a little slip cont'g a ¶ which I hope you can still put into my first installment. Cannot I get something for Madame Delphine, to appear simultaneously in French or German somewhere? Or can the French & Prussians do without it? I would like to take off a second pecuniary crop from it in Dutch if possible—a sort of collards, as we might say. Wouldn't it work? There is Mr. Fréchette translat'g O. C. Days<sup>14</sup> for the Gauls & Herr Jüngling drandtslading dot Krawntissheemps into the horse dialect; why not put Madame Delphine on a hook and drop her over the side? I'm in earnest.

I lately made a pleasant discovery: An entomologist. At my request he has prepared a colored illustration of a splendid new sphynx moth which he discovered last summer at Spanish Fort (our Coney Island). The illustration now lies on my desk. He has written an account of the larvae & imago (I'm weak on these terms—don't criticize) and I am sure you would accept it for publication as a scientific memorandum but have given it back to him advising him to write it as a popular paper. Tomorrow or next day I shall send the paper and illust<sup>n</sup> to you. The moth is a splendid fellow & if the discovery is genuine (w'h I think will be found to be the case) it ought to be a very notable one in Entomology. Let me give you the spread of his wings with a pair of dividers: [a line drawn diagonally across the sheet indicates the spread.]

The conversational description of my bug-hunter's adventure was something rich. "I yoost drempled so I tropt her twyce"—speaking of the brilliant green & gold larvae which he discov<sup>d</sup> by the light of the electric lamp, feeding on its natural diet of pickerel weed in a marshy spot near the edge of the lake.

While I was writing on the foregoing page I was interrupted by the entrance of Mr. Livingston, artist,<sup>15</sup> and Major Walthall,<sup>16</sup> a southern writer whose name you may have noticed in connection with the preparation for the press of Jefferson Davis's book.<sup>17</sup> He is separated from that enterprise now & came in to make my acq'ce for the purpose of advising with me concern'g his wish to write up (& to have Mr. Livingston illustrate) the Northern Gulf of Mexico coast with its watering places. I gave him the right advice, i.e. to *do something* & submit it to you. I believe you can get something desirable from them by just a little training.

I wish I could go right on writing to you. It doesn't bother me & you're too far off for me to hear your complaints at my prolixity.

Thank you for mentioning my shocking omission in the matter of a letter to Mrs. Herrick.<sup>18</sup> I shall write within 24 hours.

Hope Mrs. Johnson is now well. Mrs Cable is just now able to be out after 3 months illness. Alas! the poor women—there is no glory in their warfare; it is all fighting & suffering.

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

New Orleans, Feb'y 26, 1881.

My dear Mr. Johnson;

that is to say—You dear old Johnson:

I have been making a forced march to escape the prodding of the government printers & am just sending off the 1st installm<sup>t</sup> of my "N. Orleans".<sup>19</sup> Now I turn to repair a broken pledge concerning my entomologist. With this I mail his picture of his new sphynx & larva and an a/c which he has written of it. He is infantile in literature—as you will see; but if you will exercise some of the patience & obstinacy that you show to me when I am under your sheep-shears he will turn out a readable account of his discovery. His MS. (w'h I enclose) will not pass muster as it is, of course; I have told him so & he expects it sent back with editorial corrections & suggestions. Only don't cast him off.<sup>20</sup>

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Oh! me! I almost forgot to ask your congratulations. I told our Baron von Reizenstein that he ought to name his pet. He had forgotten that point & now insists on calling it after me. I will try humbly & gratefully to do my duty as a godfather. (Tears.)

Another omission: He says he once sent a newly discovered moth to Philadelphia & had the pleasure of seeing it brought out a year later by a Phila. naturalist as the *latter's discovery*. Don't let him fall into such a trap this time.

Yours

G. W. C.

His name is L. von Reizenstein  
send to my care.

Editorial Department  
The Century Magazine  
Union Square,  
New York.  
Nov 19, 1883.

Mr Courtlandt Palmer;<sup>21</sup>

Dear Sir:

Much against my wish I find myself unable to call on you before leaving New York for the East.

I shall be back on the 5th Dec<sup>r</sup>. I am told that by furnishing a mem. of the names of persons whom I should like to have invited to hear my lecture before your club I can have that gratification without transcending rules.

There are several thousand others whom I should have liked to add to this modest list, but not wishing to crowd your drawing-room I enforce upon myself that self-denial for which I am famed.

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Simsbury, Conn.<sup>22</sup> Sep 4/84

Dear Johnson:

I shall drop in on you Friday (tomorrow) somewhere about 2 o'clock. Can't you arrange to give me a good long *séance* on my Saratoga<sup>23</sup> paper & other things? Please do. I'll drop in at 2.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Northampton, Mass.<sup>24</sup> Feb'y 1st, 1887.

Dear Johnson:

Enclosed find c'k for \$5. for whatever I owe on dues to the C'right League.<sup>25</sup> I think this exceeds my dues by \$1—which please make as a contribution.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Northampton Mass. Sep 23, 1887.

My dear Mr. Hill:<sup>26</sup>

Thank you much for the newspaper matter rec'd from you. I have read it with much interest.

I have not forgotten our plans for good work. I have been busy in every direction, talking & writing in that interest. Yesterday I completed the first draught of an essay which the London Contemporary Review invited me to write. I shall hope ere long to show it to you. It is on "The Negro Question in the U. S."<sup>27</sup> I may send you a type written copy in advance of publication & ask you for comments & queries. But even now I want your aid. Can you get for me the figures (Gov't figures) of the taxable wealth of various states & territories? If so I can make excellent use of them.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Paradise Road,  
Northampton, Mass., July 16 1888

My dear Mr. Johnson:

Are you still the War editor or is Russia now your department? I send with this a MS which in spite of its blue ribbons I think is a very charming bit of Russian narrative. I know the writer, a Russian gentleman, the Count Podgorsky,<sup>28</sup> residing here.

Will [you] kindly let me hear what the Editor's verdict on this is? The first two pages are entirely superfluous. The account should begin with the second ¶ on p. 3.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Paradise Road,  
Northampton, Mass., July 3, 1889.

Dear Buel:<sup>29</sup>

I have at length completed my editing of the War Diary of a Union Woman in the South.<sup>30</sup> When I say that I have carried this MS about with me for thousands of miles and that it is nearly a year since I began to edit it—and that the work has been only



editing—and that I have stricken out largely in single lines & often in single words nearly 9000 words, you may be sure I'm glad to call it finished.

As it stands now it ought to make between 22 & 23 pages of The Century & divides neatly near the middle. I send you a type-writer [*sic*] copy much scratched; but this is only the last scratching. If you think best for your own purpose to have a fresh copy made I should like to have this scratched copy back again. It is a study of laborious condensation that I should value. But you need not do it for my sake; I don't care that much about it. It is a good illustration of how tremendously a thing can be boiled down without altering its flavor or quality.

Know [*sic*] your liking for expedition I hurry my introductory note to the typewriter & will mail all within 24 hours. Hoping for early rec't of proofs—for you know I am eager to issue in book form,<sup>31</sup>

I am Yours

G. W. Cable

Paradise Road,

Northampton, Mass., Jan. 2 1890

My dear Johnson:

Your Dec 31, '89 rec'd. It will be utterly out of the question for me to go to Chicago to take part in the Authors' Reading for the good cause of Copyright. With hearty regrets,

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Paradise Road,

Northampton, Mass., Nov. 17, 1890.

R. U. Johnson, Esq., Sec't'y &c.

Dear Sir:

With thanks for the honor I accept my re-election to the Council of the Am<sup>n</sup> Copyright League.

I regret that I have arrived from the west (only within the present hour)<sup>32</sup> too late to attend meeting of Council called for this date.

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Paradise Road,

Northampton, Mass., May 19, 1891.

Dear Johnson:

I'm home and at work now without interruption and should be ever so glad if you would come up—you or any of your group—any day that may suit you. Indeed you ought to come. Have you any wild woods in New York within 60 seconds' walk of your house or office, where we can sit on a shady bluff with the river at our feet and read MS? That's what's waiting for you here. Choose your own time, it's all open to you—so are the spring flowers of grove & field.

If you Century men are too high & mighty to condescend to yellow violets and mossy banks, then can you name some date when I can come and read MS to you? Don't you see what I want? It's the infinite advantage of your running comment & seriatim treatment! Don't tell me it's easier to write the faithful harshness of a conscientious editor than to speak them to the author; it's harder—and it's much harder on the author & far less valuable.

Now come up—one of you, and sit in the fragrant shade. Or if that can't (or simply won't) be, then fix a day for me to come down.

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Dryads' Green<sup>33</sup>

Northampton, Massachusetts

April 12, '97.

Mrs. Lucy L. Hartt;<sup>34</sup>

Dear madam:

In answer to your letter of April 8 I have to say that it will give me pleasure to accept the invitation of Buffalo Seminary to address its graduating class on the morning of June 10 if my terms are acceptable to your management.

My work however is so burdensome and urgent that I cannot feel justified in making less than my usual price of One hundred dollars.

Awaiting your reply I beg to remain

Yours truly

G. W. Cable

Cambridge, Mass.,

April 30, 1901.

Dear Johnson:

I am here for a day or two and having within this hour completed my story (*Père Raphaël*)<sup>35</sup> I express it to you at once. You will oblige me by sending acknowledgement of its safe receipt to me at my home address, Northampton.

Though I part with the MS to you today, I want very much to give it a few love-taps by and by when I can give it a refreshed glance; so, as you go over it, if you will make a light note of such things as you think might be retouched to advantage I shall count your so doing a favor.

Ever Yours truly

G. W. Cable

March 1st 1904.

Mr. Robert U. Johnson,  
327 Lexington Avenue,  
New York.

Dear Johnson;—

I cannot express to you how grateful I feel to you and to Mrs Johnson, and so many kind friends for your expressions of sympathy with me and my dear children in the loss of the beloved wife and mother<sup>36</sup> who was so large a part of our life and happiness.

Your kind words are a precious comfort.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Home-Culture Clubs,  
Northampton, Mass.  
October 17, 1906.

Dear Mr. Page:<sup>37</sup>

Please keep your money, your autograph is all I ask. Mark Twain's rule is never to refuse his to a boy, and I am but a trifle over sixty. I founded these Home-Culture Clubs eighteen years ago and have been president and head-waiter of them ever since.

The Women's Council of these Clubs, a board of Northampton and Smith College ladies who are having a beautiful success in imparting uplifting influences among many hundreds of our working people, propose to buy (through the regular channels) a number of your books and sell them with your autograph on inserted page, if you will have the goodness to sign the enclosed blank sheets. Mr. Carnegie has given his in check signatures for nearly seventy-five thousand dollars,<sup>38</sup> but in your case that form is not imperative.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Northampton, Mass.,  
Nov. 3, 1906.

Dear Mr. Miller:<sup>39</sup>

I return to you here enclosed the (to me) rather senseless clipping which laments something that never happened and something else equally imaginary.

"The Grandissimes" "as first printed in magazine form with all the French dialect" was absurdly overloaded with phonetical renderings which I simplified to the reader's great advantage and no one's real loss. The Grandissimes in that first form differs from the present version in no other way. There is not a line added subtracted or remodeled.

Thank you for the Krehbiel<sup>40</sup> letter.

My dear friend, I expect about the third week of this month to be married<sup>41</sup> and shall hope one day to see you again in "Tarryawhile."

Ever Yours truly  
G. W. Cable



Aug 13, 1909.

Dear Johnson:

I am crowded out of all chance to be a prompt correspondent. Your letter of the 24 July gave me hearty pleasure.

What passage Meredith<sup>42</sup> meant in his flattering allusion I really cannot tell—whether in “The Grandissimes” “The Cavalier” or “Doctor Sevier”[.] I am pretty sure to vote for Muir<sup>43</sup> for the Academy.<sup>44</sup> I think your policy of consultation over names is the only right one.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

August 23rd, 1909.

Dear Johnson:

I write both for Col. Higginson<sup>45</sup> and myself, having his letter. He says: “Can you tell me anything more about the proposed gathering at Washington next winter?” I couldn’t tell him anything more. Howells’s letter, received early in the summer, and your own last letter to me seem to take it for granted that I knew facts that have never come to me. I wish very much I knew exactly what is planned. If I am to participate in the programme, I ought to know what the projected programme is.<sup>46</sup>

I am really disturbed about my own part in the matter, for since I answered Mr. Howells, accepting his invitation, my literary work of a most obligatory sort has buckled up, as the mechanics say, in a most embarrassing way, and while I greatly covet the honor of being on such a programme as this at Washington must be in any case, I scarcely see how I can contrive to fulfil my promise to Howells. So may I ask you who do so much for us at all times to enlighten me as best you can? For if I have got to drop out of the parade I ought to do so as promptly as possible.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Philadelphia

November 23rd [1913]

Dear Mr. Plimpton;<sup>47</sup>

I heartily rejoice to know by your invitation, received yesterday, just as I was leaving home, that Robert Underwood Johnson is to be tendered a testimonial dinner.<sup>48</sup> It is with great regret that I find myself totally unable to attend it, having just arrived here to go to the Hospital for a confining though unhazardous eye operation.

I have all exalted regard for Mr. Johnson’s great public value. His devoted services in the interest of International Copyright, though performed incidentally while he was mainly absorbed in the great vocation of his life, were of themselves sufficient to put the whole literary world permanently, historically in his debt.

I have had abundant reason to count him my personal friend for more than thirty years, and I doubt if any other of the early contributors to the Century Magazine can testify to such invaluable editorial counsel received from him, as can I.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

"South Sea", Paget W.  
Bermuda, Dec 9, 1921.

Dear Johnson:

Your letter surprises me greatly and I reply by first mail practicable. There must have been, if nothing better, at least a pretext for the action<sup>49</sup>—what was it?

Neither can I understand why you were seemingly treated in so slipshod a manner. Without a knowledge of these things I cannot allow myself to form a judgment although I may suspect this or that. Neither do I understand why I or any member of the Academy should be allowed to go ignorant of any condition requiring or justifying such a step by part of the Academy while the rest of the members are still ignorant of the condition of things.

If the question is one of expediency no one, it seems to me, would let himself stand in the way of a necessary adjustment, or would need to be treated ungraciously.

I wish I might be at the board's Dec 30 meeting. But I cannot. My wife is very ill and cannot be left. As to writing Augustus Thomas,<sup>50</sup> I do not find myself in possession of facts enough to justify a decision one way or another. You ought to tell me things more fully and I ought to have known them sooner. Surely if you counted on any aid from me—and I should be most happy, dear friend, to render it—you would have written me sooner and more fully. Still if there is any service I can perform at this distance of time and place (two steamers a week), give me the privilege. I ask nothing better.

Yours truly  
G. W. Cable

Chelsea Court Apartments  
Atlantic City, New Jersey  
Dec 19, 1922.

Dear Johnson:

Please let me ask you to second my nomination of Doctor Bassett.<sup>51</sup> Look in "Who's Who in America"; I cannot write a long letter—am not physically able.

I'll be greatly obliged.

Yours truly  
Cable

## NOTES

1. Edward L. Tinker, "Cable and the Creoles," *American Literature*, V: 317-319 (Jan. 1934).
2. Arlin Turner, "George W. Cable, Novelist and Reformer," *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, XLVIII: 542 (Oct. 1949).
3. Tinker, *loc. cit.*, p. 316.
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 325-326.
5. Turner, *loc. cit.*, p. 544.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 545.
7. Tinker, *loc. cit.*, p. 326.
8. Proofs of his first novel, *The Grandissimes*, a historical romance of early nineteenth-century Louisiana. It first appeared serially in *Scribner's Monthly* from Nov. 1879 through Oct. 1880.
9. Wm. C. Black and Company, cotton factors and commission merchants in New Orleans, with whom Cable had been employed since 1871. He left the firm in 1880 after the death of Wm. C. Black. The principal source used for facts of Cable's life in these notes is Lucy L. C. Bikle, *George W. Cable; his life and letters*, New York, 1928.
10. Irwin Russell, author of "Christmas-Night in the Quarters" and other poems, who died in a cheap boarding house in New Orleans on Dec. 23, 1879. In 1888 the Century Company published his single volume of verse under the title, *Poems by Irwin Russell*.
11. Very probably Edward King, a journalist who was sent on a 25,000-mile trip through the South by *Scribner's Monthly* in 1872 to prepare their spectacular series of articles, "The Great South," and to explore the literary potentialities of that section. He returned with the report that he had discovered Cable, who four years previously had tried to gain the attention of that magazine, and he became one of the chief promoters of the Louisiana writer. See Roger Burlingame, *Of Making Many Books . . .*, New York, 1946, pp. 49-51.
12. For many years Cable considered the reading of fiction sinful. Finally he came to read some of Victor Hugo, Thackeray, Turgenev, and Hawthorne. See William M. Baskerville, *Southern Writers*, Nashville, 1902, v. I, p. 342.
13. A novelette about a quadroon woman, published in *Scribner's Monthly*, May-July, 1881, and in book form the same year.
14. *Old Creole Days*. Dr. Louis Fréchette, a Canadian poet, translated some of Cable's stories into French.
15. Livingston remains unidentified.
16. William T. Walthall.
17. *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, New York, 1881. 2v.
18. Probably Sophia M'Ilvaine Bledsoe Herrick, who was on the editorial staff of *Scribner's Monthly* and its successor, *The Century*, from 1878 to 1907.
19. Cable wrote an elaborate historical sketch of New Orleans for the tenth census (1880) of the United States; it appeared in v. 19, pp. 213-267 of the *Census*.
20. No evidence is found that the Baron's work was published.
21. Palmer, a New York attorney interested in the development of technical education and an advocate of liberal ideas, had established the Nineteenth Century Club in 1880. The Club met throughout the winter season to hear papers by leaders in art, literature, and social science, followed by open discussion. Cable read a paper, "The True Literary Artist," at a meeting of the Club in Palmer's home on December 6. In a letter to his wife, written from New York on November 8, Cable described the paper as "just what I think it a Christian's duty to say to just such a lot of free thinkers & doubters as I am told that club comprises." (Bikle, *George W. Cable*, p. 107.)
22. Cable and his family had moved to Simsbury in July, 1884.
23. Cable was coming to be in great demand throughout the United States, and later in the British Isles, as a reader and lecturer. From Nov. 1884 to Feb. 1885, he and Mark Twain were on a reading tour, about which Clemens wrote: "I was on the public highway with another bandit, George W. Cable. We were robbing the public with readings from our works during four months." *Saratoga* was included in their tour. See Samuel L. Clemens, *Mark Twain's Autobiography*, New York, 1924, v. 2, p. 165.
24. In Sept. 1885 Cable had taken up permanent residence here.
25. American Copyright League.
26. Robert T. Hill, U. S. geologist.
27. *The Contemporary Review*, LIII: 443-468 (Mar. 1888).
28. *The Century* did not print this manuscript.
29. Clarence Clough Buel, assistant editor of *The Century*.
30. Published in *The Century*, XXXVIII: 931-946 (Oct. 1889).



31. It was included in his *Strange True Stories of Louisiana*, New York, 1889.
32. He had been on a reading and lecture tour.
33. In 1892 the Cable family had moved from "Red House" on Paradise Road to "Tarryawhile" on Dryads' Green.
34. Lucy Lynde Hartt, widow of Charles Frederic Hartt, a geologist of international reputation. She was for a long time associate principal and principal of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Seminary. Apparently Cable's terms were acceptable, for a month later he wrote Mrs. Hartt again about his coming to Buffalo, inquiring where he was to stay. See Charles Frederic Hartt Papers in the Manuscript Department of Duke University Library.
35. Published in *The Century*, LXII: 545-561 (Aug. 1901).
36. Louise Stewart Bartlett Cable, who had died during the previous month. She and Cable were married in New Orleans on December 7, 1869; they had seven children.
37. Thomas Nelson Page.
38. The contributions of Andrew Carnegie, a friend of Cable, made possible the establishment of the Home-Culture Clubs. By 1896 they had spread to thirteen states.
39. Perhaps Lewis Bennett Miller, writer of adventure stories for leading magazines.
40. Henry Edward Krehbiel, music critic of the *New York Tribune*.
41. He was married later that month to Eva C. Stevenson, a broadly educated woman from Lexington, Ky. She died early in 1923. The following December, at the age of seventy-nine, Cable married Mrs. Hannah Cowing, a Northampton neighbor and friend of the family.
42. Maybe George Meredith, English poet and novelist.
43. John Muir, geologist, explorer, naturalist, and nature writer.
44. Probably the American Academy of Arts and Letters, of which Johnson and Cable were members, and to which Muir was later elected. Johnson was for many years Permanent Secretary of the Academy.
45. Thomas Wentworth Higginson.
46. Undoubtedly the first public meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which was held in Washington in two sessions on December 14 and 16, 1909. Cable did not appear on the program, but Higginson, also a member, read a short paper on Ruskin and Norton, and William Dean Howells, as president, made the opening address.
47. George Arthur Plimpton, member of the publishing firm of Ginn and Company.
48. Johnson resigned from the editorship of *The Century* in May 1913. The dinner, arranged by his friends in publishing, literary, and civic circles, was held at Sherry's in New York on December 11 of that year.
49. The abolition of Johnson's title of Permanent Secretary of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.
50. Thomas was also a member, and former president, of the Academy.
51. Probably John Spencer Bassett, noted historian, earlier a member of the faculty of Trinity College (Duke University), and at this time professor of history at Smith College. Bassett was elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters in 1923. (This is the parent organization of the Academy, from which Academy members are elected; Cable and Johnson were therefore members also of the National Institute.)

# THE BYRON COLLECTION IN THE RARE BOOK ROOM OF DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

THOMAS M. SIMKINS, JR.

MANY Friends of Duke University Library who have not had opportunity to examine the major author collections in the Rare Book Room will find a description of the Byron Collection to be of some interest. Though it is one of the most important of the Library's collections in the field of English literature, it has never been adequately described. There are brief articles in the *Duke University Alumni Register* for August, 1932, and December, 1933, in which Mr. Eric Morrell, then Chief of the Order Division of the Library, told how through the efforts of the late Professor N. I. White and the generosity of the Class of 1913 the Library was enabled to develop its small Byron Collection into one of bibliographic eminence. Mrs. Ellen Frey Limouze, the first Curator of Rare Books at Duke, compiled and published in *Library Notes* for July, 1947, selections from the correspondence of Professor White and Mr. Thomas J. Wise, under the title, "Thomas James Wise: Friend of Duke University Library." In these letters, of which the originals are in the Manuscript Collections of Duke University Library, is revealed the story of the Library's friendship with this man of complex character (if not entirely hap-

py memory) in whose Ashley Library most of the important Byron items now at Duke once found lodging.

To these writers the present writer acknowledges a heavy debt for information which he would not have found had they not gone before and lighted the way. Above all, to the indefatigable Mr. Thomas J. Wise himself thanks are again due, this time for providing not only the books, but also, in *A Bibliography of the Writings in Verse and Prose of George Gordon Noel, Baron Byron* (London, 1932, 2 v.), so stable a basis for the identification of the editions, issues, and variants represented in the Byron Collection in the Rare Book Room. The Library's copy of Mr. Wise's bibliography came as an inscribed gift from its author and so is itself, most appropriately, a part of the collection for whose description here it has served as an indispensable foundation. Moreover, it came to Duke in company with many of the very copies of Byron's works which Mr. Wise had so recently been examining during the labors of which the bibliography is the monumental record.

Byron's bibliography begins with an item so involved in private printings, changes of title and contents, missing

dates, revisions, errata, and other pitfalls, that one suspects His young Lordship and his printers of setting out like medieval strategists to "amuse" their adversaries, the collector, the bibliographer, the librarian, and the book dealer. The book of juvenile pieces now commonly known as *Hours of Idleness* appeared first under this title in 1807, and the copy at Duke is one of this first (or "crown octavo") edition of the *Hours*, with the error *thnnder* for *thunder* on page 114 unmentioned among the errata, along with *thc* for *the* on page 181. (There were two earlier editions with somewhat different contents and different titles: *Fugitive Pieces*, 1806, and *Poems on Various Occasions*, 1807; neither of these is represented in the Duke Collection.) The same collection, but with six poems omitted and five new ones added, appeared a year later in 1808 as *Poems Original and Translated*; of this edition there is a fine copy, complete with *aaid* for *said* in the footnote on page 115 and stanza 6 on page 29 irreproachably so numbered. Also on the shelves may be found two copies of the authorized *Hours of Idleness* published by W. T. Sherwin, London, 1820, the contents of which agree exactly with the edition of twelve years earlier.

Byron's next important work, *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*, presents a bibliographical labyrinth of editions and issues and variants, to be threaded only by those who can smile at such monsters as "Seventh Spurious

Third Edition, 1810 [1818]." This is actually one of the valued items in the Byron Collection to be found in the Rare Book Room, though it is naturally not so respectable as the genuine first edition, second issue or variant, of 1809, with which we must begin. This second issue differs from the first in having a preface and the correct spelling *author* on page v. Proceeding with the authorized editions, we come next to the editions of 1810 and 1811, both of which are declared by their title-pages to be the "fourth edition." The first of these has signatures running from A to D, each twelve leaves, whereas the second runs from A to G, each eight leaves except the first and last with four leaves apiece. There is a slight difference also in contents, caused by the author's removal of four lines and addition of six new lines in the second issue, so that the total number is 1050 lines in the first and 1052 in the second. Finally, the paper in a strong light reveals two dim but different watermarks, "G & R T" in the first issue and "J Whatman / 1805" in the second. There is a mystery here. Both "fourth" editions were regarded by Byron as genuine; he mentioned the "fourth edition" in a letter of June 28, 1811, and a published "fifth edition" (which must have been the fourth edition, second issue) in another letter dated June 13, 1813. The later reference could not have been to the real, original "fifth edition," since this had been completely suppressed by Byron



while still in preparation in 1812, despite the efforts of the villainous publisher, James Cawthorn, to attach a fraudulent "fourth edition" title-page and thus save his printed sheets. Unfortunately, Cawthorn persisted in his efforts and finally presented, to harass bibliographers, not only a "fifth edition" dated 1816 (immediately suppressed by Byron with the aid of a court order) but also the long series of spurious "third" and "fourth" editions, of which one example has already been cited. The curious may see in the Rare Book Room genuine copies of Cawthorn's first and seventh spurious "thirds," [1812?] and [1818?], and the first spurious "fourth" [1812?], all three title-pages brazenly dated "1810."

Leaving the *English Bards* and the shameless Mr. Cawthorn, we find that Lord Byron had also turned his back on his former publisher; his next work, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, was published by John Murray as the beginning of his long association with the poet. Here an enumeration is happily unnecessary, since the Library has a complete "run" of *all* the known separate editions and issues which came out during Byron's life: eleven editions of Cantos I and II between 1812 and 1819; three issues of the first edition of Canto III in 1816; and five issues of the first edition of Canto IV in 1818. One example will suffice to show what technical delights are still offered to the bibliographical student by *Childe Harold*. There exist variant copies of

Canto IV, first edition, fourth issue, in which the important asterisks before signatures P and Q, an aid in distinguishing the third and fourth issues from the second, are unaccountably missing. Upon discovering one such copy, the late Mr. Thomas J. Wise may well have permitted himself one long, low whistle, before he sent the book upstairs to go into the packing box where rarities destined for Duke University were accumulating. Among the curious items in the Byron Collection is an interesting edition of *Childe Harold* printed at the Armenian Monastery of St. Lazarus in Venice (1872), with an Armenian translation facing each page of the English text.

Two copies of *The Genuine Rejected Addresses*, first edition, first issue, are found in the Rare Book Room. These have the true first-issue imprint, "... Martin . . . and Nunn . . . 1812," rather than "... Chapple . . . and Nunn . . . 1812," in accord with Wise's revised statement of the two issues in the preface to his second volume.

In *The Giaour*, 1813, watermarks again leap into prominence as points claiming attention. The Collection contains two copies of the first published edition. One is on hand-made paper watermarked "J Whatman/1809" and "J Whatman/1810." The other is on plain unmarked "wove" paper. There is a difference in the size of the two books, but they seem to be otherwise identical in collation, and are thought to belong to the same printing. Before

leaving *The Giaour* we may mention also a fourteenth edition, 1815, as material evidence of the wide circulation of the poem. Wise's list stops with the ninth edition, also dated 1815.

*The Bride of Abydos*, published in the year 1813, is represented in the Byron Collection by two copies of the first issue of the first edition, one copy of the second issue, and single copies of the second, third, fourth, and eleventh editions. This popular work had passed its fifth edition before the end of 1813; the date of the eleventh edition is 1818. One of the two copies at Duke of the first edition, first issue, bears an aura of glory since it once belonged to Leigh Hunt. It is furthermore described by Wise as "extremely attractive" and unique in his experience by virtue of its page-number "48" on page 43. Wise's conclusion, upon this evidence, that this book is an "early copy" may be doubted by those to whose eyes the second figure looks more like a broken or smeared "3" than like the standard "8" found on other pages.

*The Corsair*, 1814, brought both gladness and grief to its publisher, John Murray. On the very day of publication, copies were sold to the phenomenal number of ten thousand. Most, if not all, of these copies belonged to the second rather than the first issue and included the additional poems extending the volume to 108 instead of 100 pages. The verses "Weep, daughter of a royal line," etc., referring to Princess

Charlotte, had caused stormy political protests upon their first appearance in a newspaper in 1812. Murray therefore did not wish to include these lines in *The Corsair*, but Byron insisted upon them, and the unhappy publisher vacillated between his fear of renewed protests and his possibly greater fear of Lord Byron's wrath. The result was an alternation in the successive issues between 100 and 108 pages. The Byron Collection has a first edition, first issue (100), a first edition, second issue (108), an early variant of this second issue (100), and a second edition, first issue (108).

One of the finest collector's items in the Rare Book Room is a somewhat unattractive pamphlet in drab paper wrappers, an uncut copy of Byron's anonymous *Ode to Napoleon Buonaparte*, 1814. This is a first edition of a sixteen-page work which appeared in very numerous editions later in the same year. Of the first edition in this form, Mr. Wise said he had seen only three copies. Among the succeeding editions the third and the tenth are important, the latter being the first to bear Byron's name. Both of these are represented at Duke.

*Lara* made its debut in company with Samuel Rogers' *Jacqueline* in 1814. Thomas Moore had been asked to contribute a poem to this rather odd combination, but he refused. Later in 1814, after *Lara* and *Jacqueline* had appeared together in three English editions and at least one American edition (Boston,

Wells and Lilly), the partnership was silently dissolved, and the first edition of *Lara*, alone, made its appearance, in two issues. The Byron Collection contains the first English and the first American *Lara* and *Jacqueline*, along with two copies each of the first and second issues of the first separate *Lara*.

Several relatively minor works of Byron followed in the years 1815 to 1819. With regard to *Hebrew Melodies*, 1815, it is enough to remark that of the two Rare Book Room copies of the first edition, one belongs to the first issue, and the other to some issue indeterminate because of a lost advertising leaf. Both of these copies carry the proper first-edition watermarks "11 Smith 1814" and "11 Smith 1815." If one is deaf to the siren song of Mr. Eleven Smith and proceeds firmly to *The Siege of Corinth* and *Parisina*, 1816, copies of all three editions of this double work will be found. The *Poems* of 1816 appears in the Collection in four copies, two of the first edition, first issue, one of the first edition, second issue, and one of the second edition. There are likewise two copies of the first edition, first issue, of *The Prisoner of Chillon*, 1816, and one copy of the second edition published at Lausanne in 1822. The *Monody on the Death of Sheridan*, 1816, appears in the first edition, first issue only. *The Lament of Tasso*, 1817, is represented by two copies of the first edition. Of *Manfred*, also 1817, there are two copies of the second issue of the first edition;

one of these was originally called by Mr. Wise a first issue variant, as a manuscript note in his hand on the flyleaf still testifies. Two copies of the third issue of the first *Manfred* are also found, along with a second edition.

At least five editions of Byron's next work, *Beppo*, were published in the year 1818, all but the fifth anonymously. At Duke may be seen a first edition of this poem, a third, and beautiful copies of the fourth and the fifth editions "stitched in modern grey-green paper wrappers, with trimmed edges, and preserved [together] in a dark blue cloth folding case by Riviere," to quote the words of Wise's *Bibliography* (I: 125) where these very copies are described. *Mazeppa*, finally, appears in the first edition, first issue, and in three copies of the first edition, second issue.

The first two cantos of *Don Juan* were issued from the press of Thomas Davison in Whitefriars in 1819. The first edition was a large, generous quarto; the second, a volume of demy octavo size, bearing the words "A New Edition" on its title-page. This latter format was chosen for the first publication of the subsequent cantos of *Don Juan*. Copies of all parts of the poem exist in both "large paper" and "small paper" form, and there are also many examples of the so-called "common editions" in small octavo. Many purchasers of these books, since the time was just before the advent of the publisher's trade binding made of cloth,



were careful to obtain the successive parts of *Don Juan* in uniform size in order to have them bound together in two or more sturdy volumes. Collectors of that day abhorred uncut copies in original drab paper wrappers or boards much more than they winced at major operations by the binder's knife, especially if the new raiment acquired in the process was splendid enough. Consequently, *Don Juan* now exists in a bewildering assortment of partial and complete copies in a wide range of sizes, with frequent mixtures of editions in bound volumes. The aging Mr. Wise did not live to complete his study of the details of *Don Juan*. We are therefore left without a guide to full description and identification in the case of Byron's most voluminous work. Perhaps the white paper back-strip labels consistently proclaiming that three cantos might be had for 9s. 6d. may at last turn out to show significant points of issues; or it may be the more usually characteristic errata, half-titles, advertising matter, printer's imprints, or other more "normal" minutiae. Work yet remains to be done for which Thomas J. Wise admittedly lacked strength. In the Rare Book Room at Duke University Library there is one fine, uncut copy of the first edition of Cantos I and II of *Don Juan* in quarto, 1819. Then comes an octavo volume containing copies of Cantos I and II, 1819, the second edition, Cantos III-V, 1821, a first, and Cantos VI-VIII, 1823, also a first. The

pages in this volume have been cut to  $8\frac{1}{8}$  by  $5\frac{1}{8}$  inches. Cantos IX-XVI appear together in another volume cut to identical size. The dates of these first editions are: Cantos IX-XI, 1823; Cantos XII-XIV, 1823; and Cantos XV-XVI, 1824. The Duke copy of the last named is incomplete in that leaf I2, an advertising leaf, is wanting; in its stead occurs a small *erratum* slip not noted by Wise in the copies he examined. An issue other than the first may be suspected here, but the case is not proved.

*Marino Faliero* and *The Prophecy of Dante*, published together in 1821, are in the Collection in both issues of the first edition. The first edition of *Sardanapalus*, *The Two Foscari*, and *Cain*, forming another composite work published in the same year, is represented by two copies, both of which have suffered the loss of the half-title. Byron's *Letter to \*\*\*\*\** [John Murray] on Bowles' *Strictures on Pope* ran to three editions in 1821. Only the second edition of this minor work is here. *The Age of Bronze*, 1823, appears in the first two editions. All three editions of *The Island*, 1823, are present, along with both issues of the first edition of *Werner*, 1823. Of *The Deformed Transformed*, 1824, the Library has all three editions, the first occurring only in the "G" form, i.e., with the final gathering signed incorrectly "G" instead of "F," a point which Thomas J. Wise regarded as too insignificant to justify a separation into two issues.

The list of single works of Byron is

brought to a close by a brief mention of four other items in the Rare Book Room: the *Parliamentary Speeches*, 1824, the *Correspondence with a Friend* [R. C. Dallas] in three volumes, 1825, *Lord Byron's Armenian Exercises and Poetry*, 1870, and *A Political Ode*, 1880. Each of these represents the first published edition, and each is a complete copy except the *Parliamentary Speeches*, which lacks the final advertising leaf.

Byron began early to apply the term "works" to his writings. Each of the three years 1813 to 1815 produced its set of *The Works of the Right Honourable Lord Byron*. The Rare Book Room has the four small volumes of the 1815 set, the earliest edition to omit *English Bards* at the poet's request. Subsequent collected editions in the Byron Collection at Duke include that of 1817 in five volumes, called "the first collected edition" by Wise, although the contents of its first four volumes are identical with the edition of 1815; the edition of 1819 in three volumes; and that of 1827 in six. Next on the shelf stands *A Selection from the Works of Lord Byron; edited and prefaced by Algernon Chas. Swinburne*, dated 1866. Swinburne's preface rather boldly for its period condemns those readers of Byron who without literary appreciation adored or abominated His Lordship beyond decorous bounds. After this, the book presents in its less than 250 pages ruthlessly mutilated abridgments of some fifteen

major works, along with ten intact shorter poems.

Two other titles in the Rare Book Room should be mentioned before we attack the unwieldy items loosely grouped together as "Byroniana." The first is the ill-fated periodical, *The Liberal*, published by Byron and Leigh Hunt in 1822-1823, in whose two volumes several of Byron's works were first printed: "The Vision of Judgment," "Heaven and Earth," "The Blues," "Morgante Maggiore" (translated from Pulci), and "A Letter to the Editor of 'My Grandmother's Review.'" The two volumes of *The Liberal* in the Byron Collection at Duke bear correct dates and show the other proper first-edition points. The second item to be mentioned is *Imitations and Translations from the Ancient and Modern Classics, together with Original Poems*, edited by Byron's friend J. C. Hobhouse, Lord Broughton, in 1809. To this anthology Byron contributed nine previously unpublished poems. The copy of the work in the Byron Collection is not a first issue, though it is a first edition. It differs markedly from the only copy described by Wise in that its original publisher's boards are covered with light blue-gray rather than pink paper, and there are four very obvious cancels, not, however, involving any of the Byron contributions.

Lord Byron, like a comet, was attended and followed by a swarm of minor particles, a swarm composed of

his imitators, apologists, idolaters, parodists, detractors, memorialists, and pirates. The fantastic oscillations of his name between fame and infamy are represented here by a large variety of titles. Examples of these Byroniana are cited in some number, but there is space to comment on only a few of the more interesting single items. The earliest title among the Duke Byroniana is *A Sketch from Public Life*, 1816, which parodies Byron's *A Sketch from Private Life* of the same year. There exist two different parodies bearing this title; the one at Duke begins "When spicy fragrance breathes," not "Born in the Chambers of the rich." Next are two editions of *Poems on His Domestic Circumstances*, by Lord Byron, 1816, both pirated and both doubtfully enriched with two poems not attributable to Byron at all. The succeeding item, dated 1818, bears the astonishing title *Poems Written by Somebody; Most Respectfully Dedicated (by Permission) to Nobody; and Intended for Everybody Who Can Read!!!*

John Byron, the grandfather of the poet, enjoyed some renown as an explorer and finally became an admiral. His voyages were so unfailingly marked by hostile skies that British seamen dubbed him "foul-weather Jack" and whenever possible shunned his ships. Perhaps the grandson inherited some of his ancestor's ability to withstand the world's buffets, though these were enough at last to drive him

from England. They were bestowed abundantly in the years 1816-1824. As representative titles from this period, the Collection contains *A Poetical Epistle to Lord Byron*, 1816, so weak a satire that its anonymity causes no surprise; Caleb C. Colton's anonymously published *Remarks Critical and Moral on the Talents of Lord Byron*, 1819; *The Vampyre*, 1819, a poor composition by Dr. John William Polidori persistently fathered upon Byron in the popular mind to such a degree that the poet protested, at the same time urging Mr. Murray to help the author, who seemed "improvable"; *Don Juan, Canto III*, 1819, a reputed continuation, anonymous, of the two then published cantos; "*Don John*"; or, *Don Juan Unmasked*, 1819, an anonymous tirade; *Warner*, 1822, a broad farce parodying *Werner*, declared by its title-page to be "By a Regular Swell Cove" (a paragon lamentably nameless); *Cato* [the Rev. George Burgess] *to Lord Byron on the Immoral & Dangerous Tendency of His Writings*, 1824; John Styles' violent sermon *Lord Byron's Works Viewed in Connexion with Christianity*, 1824; and finally *The John Bull Magazine*, 1824, which contains two alleged chapters from Byron's intimate memoirs and some of his genuine letters.

Somewhat more impartial, if not altogether favorable to Byron, were most of the following, published after Byron's death: Sir Cosmo Gordon's *Life*



and *Genius of Lord Byron*, 1824; George Cruikshank's *Forty Illustrations of Lord Byron*, 1824-1825; William Parry's *The Last Days of Lord Byron*, 1825; J. H. Bedford's imitative prose romance, *Wanderings of Childe Harold*, published in three volumes duodecimo in 1825; the anonymous *Anecdotes of Lord Byron*, 1825, with its significant motto from *Don Juan*: "Dead scandals form good subjects for dissection"; James Wright Simmons' *An Inquiry into the Moral Character of Lord Byron*, 1826; *Fugitive Pieces and Reminiscences*, 1829, by Isaac Nathan, who had composed music for Byron's *Hebrew Melodies*; Lady Byron's *Remarks Occasioned by Mr. Moore's Notices of Lord Byron's Life*, 1830; James Kennedy's *Conversations on Religion with Lord Byron*, 1830; *Canto XVII of Don Juan*, 1832, a modestly offered and not entirely unworthy sequel; *Conversations of Lord Byron with the Countess of Blessington*, 1834; Henry Austen Driver's *Harold de Burun*, 1835; *The Gallery of Byron Beauties* [1836]; *Don Juan Junior . . . By Byron's Ghost*, edited by G. R. Wythen Baxter, 1839; *A Sequel to Don Juan*, a five-canto imitation by George William MacArthur Reynolds [1845?]; *Medora Leigh, a History and an Autobiography*, edited by Charles Mackay, 1869; A. C. Swinburne's *Essays and Studies*, 1875, containing a reprint, with one addition and one subtraction, of the essay which had appeared as the

preface to *A Selection from the Works of Lord Byron* in 1866, already described; and a final work of 1876 whose long title deserves full quotation: *A Spiritual Interview with Lord Byron, In Which His Lordship Gave His Opinion and Feelings about His New Monument and Gossip about the Literature of His Own and the Present Day, with Some Interesting Information about the Spirit World; with Notes Explanatory and Elucidatory; By Quevedo Redivivus*. (The pseudonym is one used by Byron in *The Liberal*.) Of each of the foregoing works the Byron Collection at Duke University contains a first-edition copy.

In summary, the Byron Collection in the Rare Book Room of Duke University Library includes 110 of the approximately 375 items listed in Thomas J. Wise's two-volume bibliography of Byron, and in addition to these, there are at least thirty items not included by Wise. Wise's bibliography, it should be remembered, was based largely on books in his own collection, and his collection of Byron was the finest ever assembled. As has been indicated, there are points in the bibliography of Byron which await full investigation. It is hoped that bibliographical and other studies of Byron may be promoted at Duke University, where the Library's Friends have already laid so excellent a foundation for future development.

## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### GIFTS

THE devotion of two issues of *Library Notes*, published within a year, to single themes (the General Library building issue on the occasion of the opening of the enlarged building in October 1949, and the Newman Ivey White Memorial issue in July 1950) made it necessary to omit from the News of the Library the customary running account of gifts to the Library. Gifts of materials and funds have continued to come from Friends, and their accumulated number is now so great that it is possible to mention only a few in this space.

Mrs. Katherine Bellamann and Mr. James Thornton Gittman have continued to add to the Dante Collection formed by the late Henry Bellamann and presented to the Library by Mrs. Bellamann. Several important and scarce ephemera have been added to the Ehlhardt Collection of Robert Frost by Wyman W. Parker, Charles M. Adams, James L. Woodress, Jr., and Mr. Ehlhardt. For the Trent Collection, Walt Whitman material has come from Dr. Edwin Seaborn, Henry Schuman, Gay Wilson Allen, Mrs. J. W. Stewart, Mrs. Florence R. Garrett, and Mrs. Trent. Reverend George B. Ehlhardt has added to the Library's growing collection of significant Bibles two original leaves of the Aitken Bible

(Philadelphia, 1782), one accompanied by an introduction by Edgar J. Goodspeed (Los Angeles, 1949), and the other issued as *An Original Leaf from the Bible of the Revolution, with an essay concerning it by Robert R. Dear-den, Jr., and Douglas S. Watson*, printed by the Grabhorns in 1930. Mr. Ehlhardt has also presented to the Library the original manuscript and corrected proofs of Newman Ivey White's *Portrait of Shelley* (New York, 1945), which the author had given to him; both are preserved in handsome blue half-morocco boxes. Not only does this material have a sentimental value because of Professor White's long association with Duke University and interest in the Library, but it supplements his personal papers and research notes given earlier by Mrs. White, while authors' manuscripts in general have value to students as illustrations of the methods of scholarly research or creative writing.

From Mrs. Holland Holton, Mr. Quinton Holton, and Miss Grace Holton have come a large number of books from the Holton family library. Mrs. Holton has also presented to the Library, in keeping with his wishes, the personal papers and correspondence of Professor Holton, late Chairman of the Education Department and Director of the Summer Session of Duke Uni-

versity. Mr. Gilbert C. White has contributed more than 500 books in the field of Engineering.

Mr. J. R. Peacock of High Point has sent a Confederate broadside printed in Raleigh, February 22, 1861 by the *North Carolina Standard*, a rare pamphlet sketch of the life of General Josiah Gorgas by T. L. Bayne (Richmond, 1885), and other Southern American materials. He has also made several scarce items available for copying.

The Christina Publishing Society of Pittsburgh has given one thousand dollars for the purchase of books in religion and education in memory of its founder, Mary E. Rieck. Books acquired with this fund will be added to the Divinity School Library.

A number of interesting collections have also come by gift for the Manuscripts Department, in addition to the Holton papers noted above. Mrs. William McDougall has presented the papers of her late husband covering the years 1931 to 1938, the major portion of the period when this noted psychologist was Professor of Psychology at Duke University (1927-1938). There are approximately 500 items, comprising correspondence, manuscripts of articles, notes, etc. Miss Cecile Watson of Cincinnati has given 2200 items to be added to the papers of Henry Watson, Jr. (1810-1888), lawyer and planter of Hale County, Alabama. Mrs. Emma Bonney Hodges of Smithfield has deposited in the Library the Eli Whitney

Bonney papers of the Bonney and related Lee families of Camden, South Carolina, dating from 1805-1914 and containing information on social life and customs, the mercantile business, cotton trading, the Civil War and reconstruction; the papers number about 600 items. Of special interest to Duke is a letter presented by Mr. B. D. Graham of Bowling Green, Kentucky, written by Benjamin N. Duke to Mr. Graham's father on the occasion of the birth of B. D. Graham, in which Mr. Duke enclosed a certificate for one share of stock in the Continental Tobacco Company as a gift for the infant son. Mr. Joseph L. Keitt of Newberry, South Carolina, has permitted the Library to microfilm his collection of Keitt family papers (371 items, 1804-1932), many of them relating to dealings with the South Carolina Growers Cooperative and the Newberry Alliance Warehouse, cotton marketing, and local and state schools. Mr. Thomas E. Keitt, also of Newberry, gave similar permission covering his collection of letters and papers of the related Wadlington, Bauskett, and Keitt families of Newberry County, South Carolina (1758-1925), about 300 items with information on an early cotton mill at Vauclose, South Carolina; schools at Winnsboro, Charleston, and Aiken; South Carolina College; social life and customs, especially entertainment; slavery; and commodity prices.

Mrs. O. A. Worley of Jasper, Florida, presented a collection of nearly five



hundred papers (1855-73) of Charles Brown Tompkins, principally correspondence of this medical officer of the Union Army with his wife, containing information on medical and hospital conditions, "copperheadism," and the effects of the war on life in the North. From Mr. Warrington Dawson of Versailles, France, have come the papers of his father, Francis Warrington Dawson, the famous liberal and progressive editor of the Charleston (South Carolina) *News and Courier* (1873-1889). The papers cover the years 1861 to 1888, and include Dawson's correspondence with many persons prominent in South Carolina public life.

#### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

A NUMBER of unusual acquisitions during the past year or two will be of interest to The Friends, as well as the gifts noted above. For the George Washington Flowers Collection of Southern Americana, three manuscript collections are particularly noteworthy: the Hemphill, Whittingham, and Stephens papers. The Hemphill Papers, about 13,000 items, include correspondence of the Hemphill family (of Abbeville and Charleston, South Carolina) touching on practically every phase of life in South Carolina from 1800 to 1930. The bulk of the collection is the personal and business correspondence of James Calvin Hemphill, editor of the Charleston *News and Courier* (1889-1910, imme-

diately following Francis Warrington Dawson, whose correspondence is noted under Gifts), the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* (1910-1911), and the Charlotte *Observer* (1911). Theological views of the nineteenth century, pastoral problems, the depressed state of the church in the ante-bellum period, and educational matters make up the chief information in the Papers of William Rollinson Whittingham, who was the fourth Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland. This collection of over 12,000 items covers the years 1824-1879 and includes correspondence from many prominent Southerners in all fields of activity, although the major portion is made up of letters and reports from the clergymen of the diocese of Maryland. The Alexander H. Stephens Papers, some 2500 items from 1823-1884, include correspondence to the Vice-President of the Confederate states covering his entire career.

Printed material acquired through the Flowers Fund includes several Confederate imprints, both pamphlets and broadsides, as well as other early items of Southern Americana. The American sheet music collection has been increased to a total of more than 3500 items by a new acquisition of 1121 pieces, principally "coon" or minstrel songs, ranging in date from 1834 to 1936.

Ten incunabula have been among recent acquisitions, the earliest (1472) and three others having been purchased with funds contributed by The

Friends. In addition to the usefulness of these early texts for research studies, these books provide us with examples of the work of nine early printers (including Koberger and Quentell) from eight cities in Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. Stillwell's second census (1940) locates no more than eight copies of any of these titles in North America, none being in Southern libraries; of the Albertus Magnus and Trithem, only two other copies are located. The complete list follows:

Johannes de Turrecremata. *Explanatio in psalterium*. [Augsburg] Johannes Schüssler, 6 May 1472. (Stillwell T-476) Gift of The Friends.

Johannes Herolt. *Liber discipuli* . . . [Strassburg: Georg Husner, ca. 1476.] (Stillwell H-84) Gift of The Friends.

Johannes de Turrecremata. *Quaestiones Evangeliorum* . . . Cologne [Petrus de Olpe] 23 August 1478. (Stillwell T-493) Gift of The Friends.

Robertus Caracciolus. *Sermones de timore* . . . Cologne [Petrus de Olpe] 1478. (Stillwell C-171) (Bound with the above.) Gift of The Friends.

Albertus Magnus. *Sermones de tempore et de sanctis*. Reutlingen: Michael Greyff [not after 1478.] (Stillwell A-299)

Petrus Lombardus. *Sententiarum libri IV*. Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, 10 May 1481. (Stillwell P-437)

Johannes Nivicellensis. *Concordantiae Bibliae et Canonum*. Basel: Nicolaus Kesler, 23 June 1487; 12 July 1487. (Stillwell J-341)

Johann Trithem. *De statu et ruina monastici ordinis*. [Leipzig: Martin Landsberg, after 21 April 1493.] (Stillwell T-411)

*Biblia Latina*. Venice: Simon Bevilaqua, 22 November 1494. (Stillwell B-531)

*Expositio Hymnorum*. Cologne: Heinrich Quentell, 8 October 1496. (Stillwell E-123)

The Library's outstanding collections on Socialism have been further strengthened by the acquisition of a collection of 1200 books and pamphlets relating to French socialism and political questions of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; 550 pamphlets on the history of Great Britain, all printed during the first half of the eighteenth century, add to another area in which the Library is particularly strong. Two groups of French plays of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, totaling nearly 1000 titles, have filled many gaps in the Library's holdings of the dramatists, both major and minor, of this period.

The Library has been on the watch during recent months for American county histories, in which students find so much of importance and interest about the history, social life, and folklore of these minor civil divisions. Over 400 titles of this nature have been acquired, principally for the Southern and Mid-Western regions.

Groups of British sermons, over fifty of the seventeenth century, and 500 of the eighteenth century, have been acquired for the Divinity School Library, and an excellent copy of the second edition of the King James Bible (1613). Sixty-six volumes, represent-

ing twenty titles, have been added to the Ministers' Loan Library.

Two collections of wood engravings by Miss Clare Leighton are also among the recent additions to the Library: a set of twelve engravings exhibiting the crafts and industries of New England; and set number 1 of the twenty-four engravings prepared for the edition of the Frank C. Brown Collection of North Carolina Folklore, the first volumes of which are now in press.

Finally, a new Greek manuscript of the four Gospels has been added to the Library. This latest acquisition (the fifteenth in Duke's Collection of Greek manuscripts) dates from about 1150. The Gospels, lacking only the first and one internal leaf from St. Matthew and the final seven (?) leaves of St. John, are on 236 vellum leaves, followed by lectionary tables on eleven leaves of paper. There are decorated title panels in color at the beginning of the Gospels of SS. Mark, Luke, and John. The manuscript was located in Alexandria last year by Professor Kenneth Clark and had lost its binding entirely. It has been bound for the Library by R. Macdonald of New York in mediaeval style of red velvet over wooden boards, with parchment linings. It is already under intensive study by Professor Clark's graduate students in the text of the New Testament; the results of their study will contribute to the work of the international committee now collating all existing New Testament manuscripts.

## THE LIBRARY BUILDING

A FEW changes and some additional decorating have been completed in the General Library building during recent months. For the most part these have been projects which were under consideration during the major building program completed in 1949, but were deferred at that time in order that final decisions might be based on experience gained from actual use of the enlarged building.

New fluorescent lighting, matching that in the rest of the building, has been installed in the Undergraduate Reading Room and over the adjacent reserve book stacks. In the Periodical Room, cabinets with 308 additional closed compartments for unbound periodicals have been completed. At the Main Loan Desk, the central loan files have been re-located in a well cut into the top of the desk itself and protected by a bronze grille; additional shelving for sorting books has been built in the working area behind the desk. Venetian blinds and draperies add to the comfort and beauty of the General Reference and Reading Room. In a large room on the third floor of the new west wing, planned for current storage and as a future reading room, temporary partitions have been erected to set apart about a third of the area for library storage and to divide the remainder into faculty offices and seminar rooms. This helps to relieve a critical need for office space until such time as the entire room is



required for Library uses, when it is expected that new buildings projected in the Duke Development Program will have been completed.

### THE SIZE OF THE LIBRARY

AT the close of the last fiscal year On June 30, 1950, the total number of volumes cataloged and available for use in the University libraries was 994,233. This figure stands in dramatic contrast to the 87,857 volumes available in 1924/25, the year the University was established, representing an increase of 1032 per cent in a quarter century. Friends frequently ask about the size of the Library in relation to those of other American universities, so we reprint here from statistics compiled by Princeton University Library the number of volumes reported by the twenty largest university libraries as of June 30, 1950.

1. Harvard	5,397,286
2. Yale	3,979,942
3. Illinois	2,383,503
4. Columbia	1,897,715
5. Chicago	1,797,584
6. California (Berkeley)	1,665,063
7. Minnesota	1,528,288
8. Cornell	1,463,968
9. Michigan	1,457,047
10. Pennsylvania	1,194,808
11. Princeton	1,166,634
12. Stanford	1,092,008
13. Northwestern	1,013,151
14. Duke	994,233
15. Texas	934,290
16. New York University	888,181
17. Ohio State	863,154
18. Johns Hopkins	839,804

19. Indiana	796,797
20. Wisconsin	777,491

Duke occupies fourteenth place in this table, a position it has held since 1947/48. In reviewing comparable statistics for the past twenty years (1930/31 to 1949/50), we find that Duke, with 246,280 volumes, was the 26th largest university library in 1930/31. It moved into the "first twenty" group in 1933/34, and has remained there ever since. Of the twenty-three libraries which have occupied places in this group fairly consistently during these past twenty years, Duke, though now fourteenth in number of volumes, would rank eighth in average annual number of accessions, and ninth in average annual expenditure for books, periodicals, and binding. The record is an enviable one, to which the Friends of the Library have contributed in no small measure.

Late in September, 1950, Duke University Library added its one-millionth volume. The book selected for this distinction was an early description of North Carolina by a German traveler, *Amerikanischer Wegweiser; oder Kurtze und Eigentliche Beschreibung der Englischen Provintzen in Nord-Amerika, sonderlich aber der Landschaft Carolina . . .*, by Johann Rudolff Ochs, published in Bern in 1711. Of this exceedingly rare title, which was purchased on the George Washington Flowers Memorial Fund, only two other copies are known in American libraries.

# LIBRARY NOTES

A BULLETIN ISSUED FOR

*The Friends of Duke University Library*

No. 26

April, 1952

## ARTHUR O'SHAUGHNESSY LETTERS

THE Library has recently acquired a group of letters to and about the English poet Arthur O'Shaughnessy (1844-1881), who is usually regarded as a late-comer or follower of the Pre-Raphaelites. He is chiefly remembered now as the author of "We Are the Music-Makers" and one or two similar poems, from which he might seem to be the pale shadow of a human being palely loitering through the streets of London. But actually he was also a proficient herpetologist employed in the zoology department of the British Museum, and, as these letters show, a live man actively interested in making his way as a poet against the usual odds, and very diligent in seeing that his slender volumes were well handled by the reviewers. He published three books, and a fourth appeared posthumously in 1881. They have never been reprinted and are difficult to come by, but a good selection was put out in 1923 by the Yale University Press. At the end of his life he turned to criticism and became the London correspondent of the French periodical *Le Livre*, then just beginning. His articles written in French for this journal have never been collected.

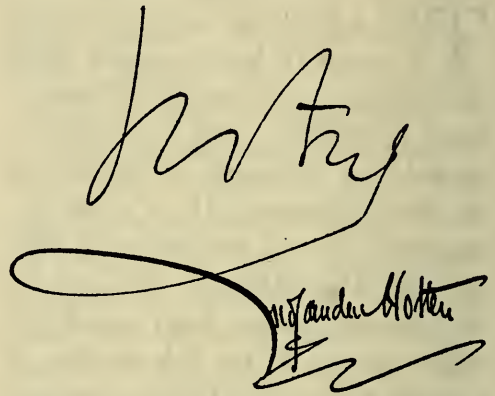
Among our letters are twenty from Octave Uzanne, editor of *Le Livre*, running from August 1879 to December 1880, discussing various details of O'Shaughnessy's work. The initial arrangement called for a monthly article for which he was to receive fr.600 (£24) a year; later it was decided that the articles should appear "de deux mois en deux mois."

There are also a number of letters from his first publisher, John Camden Hotten, well (or ill) known from his relations with Swinburne after the publication of *Poems and Ballads* in 1866. His business relations with O'Shaughnessy were likewise somewhat complex. In January 1869 O'Shaughnessy sent him four manuscript volumes of poetry for an estimate. Hotten replied that the cost would be £50 for five hundred copies, but he would undertake to publish *An Epic of Women* for £35 and account to the author for all copies sold after the first costs were met. Presently O'Shaughnessy sent in more manuscript and Hotten thought he should raise the price to £40, yet agreed to abide by his former agreement. In April 1870 he received his £35, while the book was "in the course of printing"; in June he warned the

poet about increased costs resulting from cancellation of sheets and resetting, for O'Shaughnessy was particular not only about his text but about the head- and tail-pieces and some special figured end-papers—samples of which are included with the letters. In September 1870 Hotten rendered his bill, including 12/10/0 for extra matter, 7/10/0 for author's corrections, and 16/0/0 for the engraving of nine blocks, besides of course the first £35. There is another letter in October about finances, and 10 November Hotten wrote, "per A. C." (i.e. Andrew Chatto): "I am sorry to find in your recent letters such a spirit of captious fault-finding." The account was finally settled 5 September 1873; 420 of 500 copies, apparently the second edition, had then been sold.

In August 1870 Hotten sent O'Shaughnessy a review, probably of the poems of John Payne, "by my friend Joe Knight (the most conscientious reviewer in England). . . . I expect you will get a good notice there." Proof sheets of *An Epic of Women* were sent to Knight, and his review appeared in the *Sunday Times*. O'Shaughnessy then wrote him explaining some of the poems, and Knight replied: "Naturally slow of comprehension and arriving at appreciation by intellectual processes eminently cumulative a volume of new poems is never adequately mastered by me in time to review it. . . . Incompetent as one may be, one brings to one's duty a gift the rarest of all with

professional critics an absolute desire to appreciate." He now understands, he says, "Bisclaveret" [*sic*] better with the poet's "gloss"; and continues, "Rossetti has . . . expressed his great admiration for it. . . . His is indeed praise worth having."



"Yours truly, Jno. Camden Hotten." Facsimile of the signature of a letter to Arthur O'Shaughnessy, 15 August 1870, about  $\frac{2}{3}$  actual size

On 4 November Hotten congratulated O'Shaughnessy on "the conspicuous review of 'An Epic of Women' in tomorrow's *Athenæum*," which was probably by "our critical friend" Westland Marston, the author of several successful plays and regular poetry reviewer for the *Athenæum*, and father of the blind poet Philip Bourke Marston. A little later, 14 December, Knight wrote: "I looked after your interest in the *Athenæum* and as you see with success" and congratulated the poet on a second edition so soon. Meanwhile O'Shaughnessy had sent Marston a copy, for which Marston thanked him on 15 October, saying he had just read a long article about it in the *Sun-*



*day Times*. Then follow two letters from Marston asking him to call—and three years later his daughter Eleanor became Mrs. O'Shaughnessy.

There are still more letters showing how Hotten tried to get reviews and advertisements in conspicuous places. For example, O'Shaughnessy sent Dr. T. Gordon Hake (also a friend of Rossetti's) a copy and wrote to William Mackay "to prepare him for the reception of your volume" and get him to review it for Ainsworth. O'Shaughnessy then thanked Mackay, who in turn thanked O'Shaughnessy, describing himself as "a half-Bohemian wretch" and commenting on the sad state of reviewing.

Thus O'Shaughnessy made progress. On 7 June A. Perceval Graves (the author of "Father O'Flynn" and father of Robert Graves) invited him to meet "many of your literary & artistic friends." The invitation was forwarded to C. H. Miller, who wrote on it: "Dear Boy, Put in an appearance at Graves' without fail"—and in August Graves accepted a poem from him and arranged for illustrations by O'Shaughnessy's friend J. T. Nettleship.

In August 1871 O'Shaughnessy had more poems ready and approached the firm of Ellis and Green. Ellis was at first discouraging, but on 1 September he agreed to print 500 copies of *Lays of France* at his own risk and share the profits of an eventual second edition. (On 19 September Hotten still thought *he* was to publish "your new book.")

Now begin again fresh troubles with the printers and skirmishes with the reviews, introducing two new names, F. Hüffer (father of Ford Madox Ford) and a certain Rev. W. Knox Macadam, of Rothesay, N. B., who engaged to review *Lays of France* "in three Northern Journals" as he had done for Marston's poems and for Swinburne's *Songs before Sunrise*.

For his next volume, *Music and Moonlight*, 1874, O'Shaughnessy moved to the new firm of Chatto and Windus—Chatto had formerly worked for Hotten. They agreed to print 1000 copies at their own risk, with a royalty of 20 per cent on all copies after the first 750. Clearly O'Shaughnessy was getting on. On 18 March Oliver Madox Brown wrote to Mathilde Blind (mis-spelling her name) asking her to review the new book; which she did in the *Examiner*, with a private exchange of courtesies. Brown has learned, he says, through Philip Marston that copies to the *Athenæum* and *Academy* "have by some mischance fallen into adverse hands" and adds that the *Athenæum* "was able in a great measure to stop the circulation of my book by an unfavourable review; but just at present it is all powerful with regard to poetry and might ruin O'Shaughnessy for good. The Philistines are making such headway nowadays!" With this letter is a holograph poem of Brown's with several manuscript alterations.

On 7 April Miss Alice Boyd wrote O'Shaughnessy a note, which was en-

closed in a letter by her friend William Bell Scott, commending the volume; and on 8 July the Earl of Lytton wrote him a long letter of high praise. Buxton Forman promised to review it.

There are many other letters in the collection of greater or less interest—one from George Powell, the Wagner enthusiast and a special friend of Swinburne, congratulating O'Shaughnessy on his approaching marriage; one from Mrs. Marston hoping the couple will visit the Dobells in the course of their wedding journey; two to Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, one of them from Mrs. E. Lynn Linton; eight very long ones from Miss May Doyle and a manuscript poem of hers; two from Augusta Holmes, in French; sundry invitations to call or dine (Ford Madox Brown, Sidney Colvin, Simeon Solomon and his sister, Mrs. Hepworth Dixon, Lord Houghton for breakfast) and so on. A letter from Pakenham Beatty, a very minor poet, enclosing a forty-four-line poem addressed to O'Shaughnessy, has the teasing question: "Have you seen the Moores, George and Augustus? They have 'softly and suddenly vanished away' as though they had seen a Boojum." Lastly, there is a four-page letter from the poet to E. C. Stedman, 7 October 1880, promising to send a photograph. Elliott and Fry have just done one, he says, but "I am so dissatisfied with the brutal more than Zola-like appearance that I cannot send it to you. . . . I write to assure you of my continued & for the present de-

termined existence. I am very busy of course & just on the point of bringing out my new volume of poems—[which appeared posthumously in 1881 with the title *Songs of a Worker*]—in which I hope there are many that you will like. Though not large it contains much of my best work in all respects & in it I shall have carried out thoroughly my artistic schemes as I have obstinately delayed it to complete this or that poem which being in my original intention had not presented themselves so readily for embodiment. I will give you some particulars of my personality if still in time for your purpose. If not please write of me at your discretion & describe me yourself. I was born in 1846 [*sic*]. I should be glad of a criticism that would deal adequately with 'Chaitivel' & the 'Two Lovers' in *Lays of France*. . . ."

In his *Victorian Poets*, 1875, Stedman has given half a page to O'Shaughnessy as one of "The General Choir," along with the two Marstons, father and son, Dr. Hake, John Payne, and other *minores*. Their exchange of letters in late 1880 was probably connected with Stedman's preparations for his revised edition, the thirteenth, of *Victorian Poets*, 1887, where in the "Supplementary Review" chapter O'Shaughnessy is included—with Rossetti, Horne, and P. B. Marston—among the Stilled Voices, with the observation that the posthumous volume testified to "an active but scarcely brightening career."

P.F.B.







ROBERT LEE FLOWERS

---

## ROBERT LEE FLOWERS

November 6, 1870—August 24, 1951

THE death of Chancellor Robert Lee Flowers took from the Friends of the Library a lovable spirit and a generous friend. He was one of the two professors who came to Durham with Trinity College when it was moved here in 1892, and he continued to serve as Professor, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, Trustee, President, and finally Chancellor, with faithfulness and ability and selfless devotion. He was a lover of learning, and he had a fine appreciation of the requirements for intellectual endeavor. It is not necessary to add here that he had also a fine appreciation of human character; and his own gentle and lofty spirit, combined with a kindly humor and a perceptive shrewdness, endeared him to generations of Trinity graduates. Duke University has been fortunate in having associated with it for long periods of time some great personalities, and the modest and democratic "Bobby" Flowers will be long remembered by both students and faculty as a sincere friend in time of need. This has been said of many persons, and of none may it be more truly said than of Dr. Flowers; of this a great host bears witness.

Though a teacher of mathematics, he was one of the founders of the Trinity College Historical Society when it was organized at Trinity in 1892 under

the leadership of the professor of history, Stephen B. Weeks. Flowers was intimately associated with Weeks's successor, John Spencer Bassett, and with Bassett's student and successor, the late William Kenneth Boyd, in the growth of the Society and in the acquisition of historical materials for its use. In 1893-1894 Flowers was president of the Society, and in 1896 he gave to the Society a "spectacular array of gifts" of books and Civil War relics, with some which were loaned or presented by his father, George Washington Flowers, a lieutenant colonel in the Confederate Army. He read papers before the Society and published articles on historical subjects in the *Historical Papers*, and in *The South Atlantic Quarterly*. He was indefatigable as a collector; Nannie M. Tilley in *The Trinity College Historical Society, 1892-1941*, records that "from 1904 until 1915, he made no less than fifty-eight donations to the Society." This interest continued until the end, but perhaps more important was his influence in the establishment of the George Washington Flowers Memorial Collection, in memory of his father, and the encouragement he gave to his brother, William Washington Flowers, a former student at Trinity and an officer of the Historical Society, to make liberal annual contributions to the Memorial Collec-

tion, and to provide a generous endowment for its use. In less than a generation the Flowers Collection has become a great storehouse of books, pamphlets, newspapers, maps, and manuscripts illustrating the varied aspects of life in the South, and providing the raw materials for much of the writing about the South by graduate students and mature scholars. Chancellor Flowers in his will made generous bequests to the University and added substantially to the endowment for the Flowers Collection. He knew that only in these and like ways could the heavy burdens of a university library be carried. But it will not be the material gifts which those who had occasion to talk with President Flowers about library matters will remember most often. They will remember, rather, his ready understanding of the problems involved, and his willingness, even eagerness, to lend a helping hand, though

he was burdened with many pressing responsibilities. He gave of himself in ways that were not always easy. In his long career he served the University in many hard tasks, but it may well be that his most enduring monument will relate, not to the business side of the University with which he was so closely connected, but to the promotion of scholarship and intellectual attainments through the enrichment of the Library.

The memory of Robert Lee Flowers will endure so long as the University stands, and it is a solemn pleasure to record here our appreciation of his noble life and his generous deeds. He died in the autumn of his years, at the age of nearly eighty-one, but it was a golden autumn, brightened by the myriad recollections of a long and useful life, and warmed by the sunset glow of rich friendships among all races and all creeds.

R.H.W.

---



## NEW W. M. ROSSETTI LETTERS

**A**MONG the recent acquisitions of the Library is a series of notes from William Michael Rossetti to Herbert Gilchrist, nineteenth-century English artist, and his mother, Anne Burrows Gilchrist, who was one of the earliest Walt Whitman fans in England. In fact, she fell in love with the American poet through reading *Leaves of Grass* and moved her family for a while to Philadelphia just to be near him. Young Gilchrist shared his mother's enthusiasm for Whitman and in 1885 aided Rossetti in a campaign to raise funds for the poet, who, they thought, was starving in poverty in Camden, New Jersey. The new correspondence deals chiefly with family gossip and with this campaign.

With one of the letters—dated September 17, 1885—Rossetti forwarded a list of subscribers which contains a few names of considerable interest. Heading the list is the name of Lord Russell, father of Bertrand Russell, who contributed a handsome sum. Most of the more generous contributors, however, were ladies. Robert Louis Stevenson, also a Whitman fan, offered a

pound as his mite. But Henry James, not to be outdone by the most philanthropic Britishers on the list, came through royally with five pounds. James shared the fascination exerted by *Leaves of Grass* in London intellectual circles and liked to say over the teacup, "Whitman—er—ah—yes!" (He always stammered when he talked.) "A great genius, no doubt, but, thank God, he knew no more languages." Whitman's misuse of French hacked his sensitive instincts for philological propriety. The five-pound note turned over to the Whitman fund by James is, however, a sure proof that so far as old Walt was concerned, Henry's heart was in the right place.

The newly acquired Rossetti letters fit in with a much larger collection of correspondence with the Gilchrists that has been housed in the Library for twenty years. It was printed in 1934 in a handsome volume published by the Duke University Press, *Letters of William Michael Rossetti concerning Whitman, Blake, and Shelley*, and edited by Professors Clarence Gohdes and Paull F. Baum.

## SOME LETTERS OF JAMES LANE ALLEN

JAMES Lane Allen is now by way of being forgotten. He died in 1925; there was a book about him in 1928 and another in 1935—but even so. His stories and articles about Kentucky were in their day (the eighteen nineties and early nineteen hundreds) popular and highly regarded. They are now in that limbo which waits to receive so many writers until they are either revived and given their due or left forever in the oblivion, which may be their due, at the mercy of antiquaries or literary historians. Meanwhile, in a small group of letters from Allen to Joseph Marshall Stoddart, of Lippincott's, acquired by the Library in 1944, there are a few glimpses of him at work which may be set forth for the use of those antiquaries or literary historians.

On 19 November 1891 Allen wrote to "The Editor of Lippincott's Magazine," then unknown to him, offering a local-color love story of 45,000 or 50,000 words, called "John Gray." There was some discussion of terms, and on 21 December Allen telegraphed accepting Lippincott's offer of \$750 for all publishing rights. A few days later the matter of advertising came up, and Allen wrote to Stoddart: "During the few years that I have been writing, I have persisted in keeping my personality as much out of sight as possible, being out of sympathy with all the tendencies of the time that run toward the advertisement of authorship. I

have wished my work, not myself, to be known." But he did offer to send a photograph, partly because it might help to distinguish him from the other James Lane Allen in Chicago.

On 7 May 1892 he sent Stoddart a description of his projected "novelette entitled 'As It Was in the Beginning'": the scene was to be Lexington; "the action deals with the ceremonies, characters, passions, and events that were connected with the admission of Kentucky into the Union. The movement is quick & dramatic, less psychological and introspective than 'John Gray'; the grouping is picturesque and full of color; and the entire work is meant to give as vivid, powerful, and impressive a picture of the times as it lies within me to create. . . ." It would run to not less than 35,000 words and not more than 45,000. Would Lippincott's accept it, and also publish it in a volume with "John Gray"? His price would be \$20 a thousand words for the magazine rights only; and then he added, with courteous regret at the necessity of mentioning such a matter: "For more than a year I have had a standing offer from one of the two leading New York magazines [Harper's no doubt] of \$25.00 a thousand for the magazine rights to my Kentucky stories." In August he reported that the story was growing to 60,000 to 75,000 words and would not be finished until spring. At the same time there is an interesting

detail, apropos of the book publication of "John Gray," for which he expected "a rather extra dress. You may know that the sale of my other book [*Flute and Violin, and Other Kentucky Tales and Romances*] has been very large, and chiefly among a class of readers who have an eye to margins, type, and paper."

"John Gray" was expanded and re-

vised to become in 1897 *The Choir Invisible*, but there seems to be no further record of Allen's novelette on the admission of Kentucky into the Union.

The Library has also a letter, type-written, to Thomas Nelson Page, 18 October 1892; a copy of a letter, 1891, to Dr. W. M. Baskervill; and two mutilated letters to Baskervill of 1896.



## ADDRESS BY MR. ARENTS

On April 5th, 1951, Mr. George Arents, well known for his great collection of books on the history and culture of tobacco, spoke to the Friends of the Library at their annual dinner meeting, and we are privileged to print here part of his address.

Mr. Arents began with an anecdote of his first meeting with James B. Duke in 1890. His father had invited to dinner a man who, he said, "would be a leader in the tobacco industry. When I met him I was not impressed. A tall, thin, redheaded young man. I did not see how one so young could be so important, but I was only fifteen. It did not take me many years to find my father was right. For this man became not only a great builder of business organizations, but in his later life the builder of a great university."

"MY other talks at Duke have been about my books relating to tobacco, so this time I will tell you of some of the manuscripts in my collections.

"One of the most interesting of these, I could not resist buying several years ago—a letter from Queen Elizabeth to Charles IX, King of France, dated August 22nd, 1572. It is written in French and in it she explains that she cannot marry his younger brother, the Duke d'Alençon, as there is too great a difference in their ages: "summer and spring cannot unite." At this time Elizabeth was in her late thirties and the Duke not yet twenty. As this letter makes no mention of tobacco, many people have asked me what it is doing in the Tobacco Collection. So

I have told them about the late Dr. Randolph Adams, who was a member of the faculty of Duke University before he became the Director of the Clements Library of Americana at the University of Michigan. He purchased for that Library a first edition of the works of Plato, an incunable published before the discovery of America, and when asked why he had added this work to a collection devoted to American interests, he replied: 'Why, don't you remember that Plato tells of the lost Atlantis in this volume? I am quite convinced that that is America.' I think I have more reason to include an Elizabeth letter in my Collection—Elizabeth was the first queen to smoke, and then there is a story about her which I like to believe is true. At one of her receptions, Sir Walter Raleigh asked for permission to smoke. In granting it she said: 'I do not see how you can find any pleasure in something that weighs nothing.' He wagered her a gold piece he could weigh the smoke. He weighed the tobacco before filling his pipe; after he had finished smoking, he weighed the ashes, saying: 'You must admit the difference has gone off in smoke.' While paying the wager she said: 'I have heard of many alchemists who have turned gold into smoke, but you are the first to turn smoke into gold.' Elizabeth's letter to Charles IX *probably* was never sent, as only two days later the Massacre of St. Bartholo-

mew occurred, causing unpleasantness between the two Courts.

"I have in my other collection a letter from Elizabeth Barrett Browning to Napoleon III asking him to pardon Victor Hugo, whom he had sent into exile to the Isle of Jersey for referring to him as 'Napoléon le Petit' in his recently published *Contemplations*. It is a very beautiful letter, as beautiful as her poems. This letter also was never sent, as Napoleon III pardoned Victor Hugo just at that time.

"When we speak of the 'founding fathers' and the thirteen original colonies, it is interesting to know that there might have been only twelve. I have an autograph letter written by George Calvert, first Lord Baltimore. This letter was written in 1629 to a friend in England, from Newfoundland, where he had attempted to found a colony. In it he writes that he found the climate so bad that he decided to take his people and go to Virginia and raise tobacco. However, on his arrival at Jamestown he would not take the Oath of Conformity because of his religion, and the colonists would not allow him to stay there. He returned to England and was granted land which is now the state of Maryland, but unfortunately he died before leaving England. If this had not happened, what is now the State of Maryland might have become part of the surrounding colonies.

"Then there are two letters from John Quincy Adams. The first, written when he was a struggling young

lawyer, tells of his love of fine cigars. The second, in his old age, thanks a correspondent for having dedicated an anti-tobacco book to him.

"Among other documents signed by famous Americans is one signed by both George Washington as President and Thomas Jefferson as Secretary of State. They are ship's papers printed in three languages for a vessel with a cargo of tobacco. It is very seldom that both of these signatures are found on the same document. Thomas Jefferson was a great landowner and grew large quantities of tobacco. Among his autograph letters, some of which I have acquired, is a lengthy series of directions sent to the overseer of his plantation instructing him in the planting of 'Tomahawk' plantation, cautioning him to keep rotating the crops so as not to exhaust the soil by planting tobacco continuously in the same fields. George Washington also made a study of the economy of rotating crops and wrote of it in his diaries, copies of which are in the Library of Congress.

"Charles Lamb was a great smoker, and many times he decided to stop. It was always at the end of an evening when he made this resolution, and he always started smoking again the next morning. I am fortunate in having the manuscript of his poem *A Farewell to Tobacco*. This is signed by a drawing of a pipe turned upside down. Lamb often referred in his letters to his determination to give up smoking.

Only recently I was able to secure a letter to William Hazlitt, the essayist, in which Lamb declares his intention of giving up smoking and signs himself 'Yours, Fumosissimus.' It is hard to imagine an English author more unlike Lamb than Lord Byron. It is well known that Byron paid a tribute to the cigar in *The Island*, but no one would imagine that he chewed tobacco. But I have a letter from him to Francis Hodgson in which he remarks that he did nothing 'but eschew tobacco.' At first I thought this meant that he did *not* chew, but in *Don Juan* he refers to tobacco as 'the cud eschewed by human cattle.'

"It is always exciting to find a previously unknown part of a book or play by a famous author. This happened to me last year. I found in one of Sotheby's catalogues that a number of Oscar Wilde's manuscripts were to be sold—among them the manuscript of the first two acts of *The Importance of Being Earnest* and the typescript of Acts III and IV with innumerable alterations in the hand of the author. The play was written originally in four acts, but when it was produced and when it was printed four years later, the second and third acts were compressed into one, so that, of Act II, as originally written, much remains unknown and unpublished. When George Alexander, the great English actor, bought the acting rights, he was insistent that Wilde should cut the play to three acts, and it has always

been produced in this way. The author himself was not pleased at shortening his play, saying that the composition of some disputed scenes had cost him much time and energy; and in fact the text of the omitted portions is just as brilliant as the rest of the play. I am anxious to publish it as originally written, and hope to obtain permission from Mr. Vyvyan Holland, Oscar Wilde's literary heir. Among my other Wilde material is the typescript of Act I. This typescript together with that of Acts III and IV comprises the complete play, parts of Act II having been inserted into Act III in order that Act II, as originally written, could be omitted. Also, I have letters from Oscar Wilde to George Alexander about this play. George Bernard Shaw was the only critic who was not enthusiastic after attending the first performance in 1895. When it was published in 1899, Wilde sent a presentation copy to Shaw, which is now in my collection.

"Shaw was a great enemy of tobacco. When in 1920 Mr. H. C. Duffin wrote *The Quintessence of Bernard Shaw*, he had a good deal to say about Shaw and tobacco. Duffin sent his proof sheets to Shaw asking for his comments. In addition to many notes on the margins of the proof sheets, he wrote a seventeen-page letter to Duffin, about a page of which is on the subject of Duffin's understating his hatred of the filthy weed. Upon receipt of the letter Duffin wrote Shaw asking permission to publish it as an appendix to his book.



Shaw refused, saying in his letter: 'If you bring a book about me to a publisher, you are bringing him a speculation: if you bring him a book *by* me, even in part, you are bringing him an investment.' I have all this material and Duffin's book. The first edition contains exactly what he had said in the proof sheets about Shaw and tobacco. In the second edition, published some years later, there is no mention of tobacco. Anxious for a letter from Shaw for my Collection, I wrote him saying I had this material, and that in one chapter of Duffin's book the author had spoken of his dislike of tobacco and smoking, and referred to Shakespeare's silence in regard to a habit very popular in his day, which unfortunate omission had meant that no works by the great dramatist could be included in my Tobacco Collection. I was much interested to know whether his opinion about tobacco had changed between the publication of the first and second editions of Duffin's book. He returned my letter, at the bottom of which he had written in red ink:

I know nothing of Mr. Duffin's disposal of my comments on his book. I have never smoked in my life, and look forward to a time when the world will look back with amazement and disgust to a practice so unnatural and offensive. To employ idle hours men could knit, as women do.

G. Bernard Shaw 16/6/1945.

"Dante Gabriel Rossetti does not seem to be a poet who would write a poem entirely on a smoking theme.

Yet in his youth he worked on a ballad on that subject, but did not complete it until the end of his life. It is entitled *The Ballad of Jan Van Hunks* and tells the story of a miser who bet he could outsmoke the Devil. Of course he lost, and was taken to Hell and turned into the Devil's pipe. This ballad is of particular interest here, for the Duke University Library has two pages of the original draft written in 1847, and also a great deal of the part which was written at a later date; and I have a notebook of Rossetti's containing the complete ballad which was written in his last years. It is written in pencil with innumerable changes, and I think it is the first draft. There is a note by W. M. Rossetti saying that it was found among his brother's books. A fair copy of this was given in 1882 by the writer to Theodore Watts-Dunton, who also held the copyright. He sold the manuscript to T. J. Wise, and the copyright was sold to Mackenzie Bell at the Watts-Dunton sale. The poem was printed in *The English Review*, and Mr. Wise issued an edition of thirty copies in 1912. Mackenzie Bell published a limited edition in 1929 and claims that this was the first edition. This manuscript was bought by the British Museum when they purchased the Ashley Library. I hope sometime in the future to publish facsimiles of these three manuscripts, and, after a long correspondence with the British Museum, I was able to get in touch with Mr. Rossetti's

literary heir, who has given me permission to do so."

Mr. Arents, at the conclusion of his address, told the Friends about the special fascination of collecting books which were originally published in parts, and instanced his set of *Pickwick Papers*, which was first issued in twenty numbered parts, 1836-1837. "Some years ago only sixteen prime *Pickwick*s were known.<sup>1</sup> Since then, three or four more have been assembled. It takes years to perfect one. When one realizes that there were probably less than five hundred copies of Part I issued originally and about thirty thousand copies of the last part, it is easy to see how many times the earlier parts had to be re-issued. I have copies of the pirated editions of *Pickwick* which were published in New York and Calcutta at about the same time as the London edition. These are scarcer than perfect copies of the London *Pickwick*. I

<sup>1</sup> Fourteen of these are owned in America. Mr. Arents' copy is duly listed among them in *The First Editions of the Writings of Charles Dickens*, by John C. Eckel, New York, 1932, p. 57.—Ed.

know of only three of the New York edition and one of the Calcutta.

"In 1834 a pirated edition of Mrs. Shelley's edition of the poet's works was issued in parts. Mrs. Shelley then asked Moxon, the publisher of *her* edition, to write to the pirate, objecting to its publication, and I think that all copies but one were destroyed. I was fortunate in securing it, but the last few leaves of one part were missing. By good luck they were found among Mr. Moxon's papers, so it is now complete except for some of the wrappers.

"I have been fortunate also in securing the manuscripts of four of Anthony Trollope's novels: *The Prime Minister*, *Rachel Ray*, *Nina Balatka*, and *John Caldigate*, and Marcus Stone's pen-and-ink drawings for the illustrations of *He Knew He Was Right*, the manuscript of which is owned by the Morgan Library. I suggested to Miss Belle Greene that I give them *The Prime Minister* for their *He Knew He Was Right*. Her only response was to say: 'How dare you have those manuscripts?'"







ROBERT WILSON CHRIST

---

## ROBERT WILSON CHRIST

Friends of the Library are saddened by the untimely death of Robert W. Christ, the late Assistant Librarian of Duke University. They will be interested in the following excerpt from a recent resolution of the General Faculty and the brief tribute to his memory prepared by a special memorial committee of the Friends.

**R**OBERT Wilson Christ, assistant Librarian of Duke University, died on December 23, 1951. One of three children of George E. and Bessie Lutz Christ, he was born in New Britain, Connecticut, on June 20, 1908. Mr. Christ was graduated from Amherst College, *cum laude*, in 1930, and received an M.S. degree from Columbia in 1948. He was Assistant to the Librarian of Mount Holyoke College from 1931-1942; Librarian of the Lending Service Library of Columbia University in 1943-44; Reference Librarian of the Grosvenor Library of Buffalo, New York, from 1944-1946; and Chief of the Information Section, Reference Division, Department of State, from 1946 to February, 1948, when he joined the staff of the Duke University Library.

"Mr. Christ was an active member of several professional library associations. He served as chairman of the Reference Section of the Association of College and Reference Libraries, on important committees of the North Carolina, Southeastern, Special and American Library Associations, and at the time of his death was a member of

the Council of the American Library Association. The range of his scholarly interest was wide; his contributions were published in most of the professional library journals of this country, *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, *American Notes and Queries*, and *The New York Times Book Review*. He collaborated with Paul Saintonge in the compilation and publication in 1942 of *Fifty Years of Molière Studies: a Bibliography, 1892-1941*. Mr. Christ gave his time generously to outside activities. He served more than three years as secretary of the Friends of Duke University Library and editor of *Library Notes*, was a charter member of the Durham Choral Society, the Play Readers, and the choir of the First Presbyterian Church. In the summer of 1949 he taught at Florida State University and in 1951 at Syracuse University."

The foregoing biographical sketch summarizes the principal events in Mr. Christ's notable career. It seems appropriate here to enlarge somewhat upon his contributions to the Library and to its Friends.

In his position as Assistant Librarian, Mr. Christ supervised departmental libraries and was in charge of readers' services in the General Library. He prepared library publications and also served as chief editor of all library publications: student guides, library hand-

books, and manuals. All phases of library service interested him, and his contributions to the several divisions of the University Libraries were significant. Particularly did he give generously of his time and talents to the details of finishing and equipping the addition to the General Library.

He assumed an active role in the work of the Friends upon joining the staff in 1948, serving most ably both as secretary and editor of *Library Notes*. His reports to the annual dinner meetings of the Friends were brilliantly and interestingly prepared. Mr. Christ's collecting, aside from professional materials and general reading, centered in

Walter de la Mare, of whose publications he had virtually a complete collection.

No mere recital of his varied achievements and activities, however, fully shows the indebtedness of the Library and its Friends to Mr. Christ. His love of learning, his professional competence, his energy and winning personality—these are intangible things and impossible to clothe in words. But they are what his friends will remember, deeply regretting the loss to the University, yet finding pleasure in the memory of this devoted Friend of the Library.

---



## NEWS OF THE LIBRARY

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

SINCE the last report to the Friends of the Library on additions to its collections, so much time has passed that only a small number of the important new accessions can be listed. It is a pleasure to report the progress of the Library, even though the report cannot be a full one.

The Reverend George B. Ehlhardt has presented to the collection of medieval manuscripts its first example in the German language, a book of prayers with the title *Gebete der Passion*, written about 1500 or shortly before. A small volume (6 inches by 4¼ inches) bound in full blue morocco by Riviere, the book contains twenty-three vellum leaves, with twenty-seven brilliant miniatures in gold and colors showing scenes of the Biblical narrative from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the descent of the Spirit in tongues of fire. It was once a part of the library of J. P. R. Lyell, and was found by Professor Kenneth W. Clark in London in the summer of 1951.

From the same library came also two new Biblical manuscripts in Greek. The first is a twelfth-century codex of the Gospels on 280 leaves of parchment, and the second a Psalter of the twelfth or thirteenth century on 272 leaves. These manuscripts, especially the former, will provide useful material for textual study. They bring the number of Greek manuscripts in the collection to seventeen.

Mr. Frank Fuller has given to the Library a full set of Charles Dickens' *Dombey and Son* in the original paper-covered monthly parts as it was first published from October 1846 to April 1848. The publication of Dickens' novels, beginning with *Pickwick Papers*, in shilling installments, was one of the innovations of nineteenth-century publishing, and complete sets of any of the novels in parts are now rarely met with. Time and the collectors have long since claimed most of them.

From Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fogleman the Library has received as a gift the two-volume set *Illustrations of the Nests and Eggs of Birds of Ohio*, by Mrs. N. E. Jones, with text by Howard Jones, published in Circleville, Ohio, in 1886.

Professor Edgar T. Thompson has contributed about one hundred forty books and pamphlets largely on the subject of race relations.

The George Washington Flowers Memorial Collection of Southern Americana has been strengthened by additions to several groups of manuscript materials: the Paul Hamilton Hayne manuscripts, the Thomas Wentworth Higginson papers, and the collection pertaining to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. George W. Cable, Appleton Oaksmith, Thomas Nelson Page, James A. Seddon, and Benjamin S. Williams of Brunson, S. C., are also represented in new ma-

terials added to earlier holdings. New groups of manuscripts worthy of mention include papers of William H. Gregory, merchant and publisher of Stovall, N. C.; of Frederick William McKey Holliday, Governor of Virginia, 1878-82; and of Richard Malcolm Johnston of Baltimore, the author of *Georgia Sketches* and other works. Manuscripts of Arthur Middleton form another recently acquired group of historical interest. Middleton was U. S. Chargé d'Affaires in Madrid during the Carlist Revolution, and the papers cover the years 1836 and 1837. Thomas E. Perrin of Abbeville, S. C., legislator and railroad president, is represented by a new set of papers dated 1822 to 1895. Another recently established collection sheds light upon the activities of James Redpath of Boston, who was an editor, an author, and the founder of the Haitian bureaus of emigration in Boston and New York. This militant abolitionist from Scotland, known especially for his promotion of public lectures through the establishment of the Boston Lyceum Bureau, figures in letters dated 1867 to 1869.

Rare books newly added to the Flowers Collection show a wide diversity of subject and form. An early imprint of the American archivist and printer, Peter Force (1790-1868), has been acquired; the title is *A National Calendar, for 1820*. An interesting eighteenth-century description of British America by a foreigner is Christian Leiste's *Beschreibung des brittischen Amerika* [Wolfenbüttel] 1778, with an

engraved map of the middle colonies in color by Pingeling. Mrs. Anne Royall's anonymously published *Sketches of History, Life and Manners in the United States, by a Traveller*, New Haven, 1826, is another descriptive work valuable in presenting contemporary impressions of the States. Scattered numbers of a weekly newspaper, the Winchester (Va.) *Gazette*, 1819-23, and the second volume of a periodical, *The Microscope*, New Haven, 1820, are worthy additions to the early American imprints in Duke University Library. The Library now has copies of two uncommon political tracts by the Revolutionary poet Joel Barlow: his *Advice to the Privileged Orders in . . . Europe, Part II*, 2d ed., London, 1795, and *A Letter Addressed to the People of Piedmont on the Advantages of the French Revolution*, London, 1795. Other recent acquisitions in the Flowers Collection which should be at least briefly noted are *A Complete Collection of State-Trials . . .* 4th ed. . . . with a new preface by Francis Hargrave, London, 1776-81, eleven volumes bound in six; *Observations on Rail Roads in the Western & Southern States*, Cincinnati, 1850; and five issues, 1854-55, of a medical journal with the striking title *The Georgia Blister and Critic*. An outstanding association item from the Reconstruction period is a newly acquired copy of the constitution, ordinances, and public laws of Georgia, published at Milledgeville in 1866. It is the copy which Governor Charles J. Jenkins pre-

sented to President Andrew Johnson.

To the Biology Library have been added the twenty-six volumes of *Phycotheca boreali-americana, a Collection of Dried Specimens of the Algae of North America*, by Frank Shipley Collins, Isaac Holden, and William Albert Setchell, Malden, Mass., 1895-1903. Another rare biological work recently purchased is the *Rariorum plantarum historia* of Charles de l'Écluse, Antwerp, 1601.

About twelve hundred French pamphlets of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries have been acquired, to augment the Library's historical source materials. The new collection includes decrees, laws, official letters, and some literary pamphlets, many of which illumine phases of the political and social history of their period. The collection of British eighteenth-century pamphlets has also been increased by approximately eleven hundred titles.

An important acquisition in the field of cartography is Pieter van der Aa's *Le nouveau théâtre du monde*, Leide, 1713. In this folio atlas the northwestern coast of North America is left undefined, and California appears as an island.

Finally, mention should be made of three books of facsimiles added to the Library in recent months. The first reproduces in full the famous Manuscript 1856 of the Vienna Nationalbibliothek,

"das schwarze Gebetbuch des Herzogs Galeazzo Maria Sforza." This masterpiece of fifteenth-century illuminative art was made available in color facsimile in 1930, by the Österreichische Staatsdruckerei. The second facsimile work is *Durham Cathedral Manuscripts to the End of the Twelfth Century*, printed for the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral at the Oxford University Press, 1939. The third is William Blake's *Jerusalem*, published by the Trianon Press in London for the William Blake Trust in 1950. This is a hand-colored facsimile of the unique copy of *Jerusalem* belonging to Lt. Col. William Stirling of Keir. The original work marks the culmination of Blake's genius as artist, prophet, and poet.

#### COST OF TECHNICAL PROCESSES IN DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

READERS of *Library Notes* may have wondered about the average cost of processing each book so as to make it a part of the Library. The term "technical processes" is used to include all the steps from ordering the book (or recording it as a gift), through cataloging, classification, preparation for binding (if necessary), and marking the book for the shelves. A survey of technical processes in Duke University Library made in April 1951 showed that the average cost per vol-



ume of all these processes, with the keeping of the necessary records, is \$2.28. This amount compares favorably with processing costs in many other libraries of similar size. The acquisition or ordering process accounts for one-fourth of the cost; cataloging and classification together, for about one-half; preparation for binding, supervision of work, and other items, for the remainder. The cost of the book itself or of binding does not, of course, enter into the calculation of processing costs.

#### THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY DINNER

THE annual dinner for the Friends of the Library has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 1952, in the Union Ballroom on the West Campus of Duke University. The speaker will be Mr. James T. Babb, Librarian of Yale University, and his subject will be the eighteenth-century English literature collections in the Yale University Library and how they were assembled. Formal announcements and invitations to the dinner will be issued in April.











Duke University Libraries



D026009700





D026009700

Duke University Libraries